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THE
SYMPTOMS, NATURE, CAUSES,
AND
C U R E
OF THE
F E B R I C U L A,
OR
LITTLE FEVER:

COMMONLY CALLED
The NERVOUS or HYSTERIC Fever;
the *Fever* on the SPIRITS; VAPOURS,
HYPO, or SPLEEN.

BY
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FEBRIUM omnium Aer Auctor existit.

HIPPOCRATES, *Art. de Aere.*

NATURA, dum in PERSPIRANDI officio est im-
pedita, incipit statim in Multis deficere.

SANCTORIUS.

SECONDEDITION with ADDITIONS.

LONDON:

Printed for J. ROBINSON, at the Golden-Lion in
Ludgate-street. MDCCCL.

Shewell 27/6/10



T H E
P R E F A C E.

I *AM sometimes engaged in the Summer Seasons, to attend Ladies in the Country; when my Custom is, to carry with me the Observations and Experiences on Diseases, which I have collected from the most approved Physical Authors; together with such practical Observations and Successes, as I have put together in the Course of my own Practice: And I generally employ the leisure Hours, those Attendances afford me, in perusing and comparing these Collections; examining, if, haply, any of my own Experiences and Successes might give me an Opportunity of serving the Public, in the Way of my Profession.*

And having, with no little Concern, often observed the many fatal Consequences, which happen from neglecting, mistaking, and ill treating the Febricula, or little Fever, commonly called the nervous or hysteric Fever, &c. I determined, from my own repeated Observations and Experiences relating to this lurking, little Fever, to exhibit, in the best Manner I could, the true Nature of this Disease; together with the Practice I have found most successful in treating it: And the rather, because I fear this Distemper has not been so generally attended to as it truly deserves, altho' it has been so often epidemical amongst us; which may perhaps, in a great measure, be owing to the Fever itself being so very obscure; and its casual Symptoms, by that Time the Physician is sent for, becoming most conspicuous and manifest.

Now that the Nature of this little Fever might be shewn in the best and most
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*rational Manner, for the Use of the young Physician, I have previously given a short Account of the Nature and Cure of a Fever universally, from its Symptoms; agreeable to our Method of knowing the Disease; which * Method, I think, is most likely to improve the Practice of Physic, by rectifying, the otherwise unavoidable Errors of mere Experience. By the same Rule, I have endeavoured to discover the true Nature of this particular little Fever; from whence I long since deduced that Method of Cure, which has proved so successful in this Disease.*

The Symptoms indeed of this Febricula, or little, low, continued Fever, are often so very obscure, that the Patient, seeming neither sick nor well, and having no Marks of an evident Disease, in the Beginning, is apt to disregard this slight Disorder; till, at length, more conspicuous, and very terrible Symptoms arise;

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upon

* *Certain Method to know the Disease, 2d Edit.*

upon which, the Physician is sent for in the greatest Hurry, and happy for the Patient, if the Symptoms, which are now most obvious, do not, at this Time, mislead the Physician, to the Neglect of the little, latent Fever, the true Cause of those violent Symptoms.

The chief of my Practice has been among the Female Sex, who are generally of more tender and delicate Constitutions ; and therefore such as are always most liable to this Sort of Fever. And I have often particularly observed, from the Neglect of this little Fever, during Pregnancy, that many Miscarriages, difficult Labours, and surprizing Accidents, soon after Delivery, have happened to these tender Women.

But tho' it must be allowed, that weak and tender Women are most liable to this Sort of Fever ; yet we also know, that all Sorts of Persons are, more or less, subject

to the Febricula: especially weakly, sedentary, and studious Persons; Valetudinarians, and People in the Decline of Life; who are all of them apt to be greatly affected by every the least Alteration of the Weather.

And as some Degree of an impeded Perspiration is, with us, the most common antecedent Cause of this Febricula, arising from the great Intemperature of the Air in this our Island; and the Irregularity of our Seasons, so suddenly changing from one Extreme to another; and, as it were, instantly passing through the different Mediums of hot and cold, wet and dry; it is no Wonder, that this Distemper should, in a manner, be peculiar to us, who inhabit this very variable Climate.

It is yet farther to be feared, that many Irregularities in Diet, and the Manner of Living; as also an over eager

Pursuit of fatiguing Diversions, do, too often, concur with the Inclemency of our Air, towards the making this little Fever more fatal ; especially among the opulent Families of this great Metropolis.

In the Beginning of this Febricula, or little Fever, the Patients, as I observed above, only feel themselves languid and uneasy, without any Marks of an evident Disease : they have a Weariness and flying Pains about them ; a Dryness of the Lips and Tongue, but little Thirst ; rather a Dislike than a Desire of much Drink ; they often in a Day find themselves giddy, make pale Urine ; are greatly dispirited, and anxious, without being able to assign any Reason for it. They have often transient Chillinesses, the Pulse, at the same Time, being low, quick, and unequal : They have sometimes cold, clammy Sweats, Risings in the Throat, and the like.

And it is observable, that on any Commotion from the least sudden Surprise, Grief, Anger, and the like, this little Fever subsisting, the above Symptoms, with others of a similar Nature, are always increased, till at length come on, through Neglect, or ill Management, Syncope, or entire Soundings away, Stupors, and Death. But notwithstanding the abovementioned, and such like Symptoms, do, more or less, usually accompany this little Fever; yet none of them perhaps may be found so troublesome at first, but that the Patients are able to go about; which makes them flatter themselves, that they shall easily wear off this seeming slight Disorder: while, in the mean time, the Distemper gains Ground, and more violent Symptoms come on, borrowing the Shapes of other Diseases.

I would not here be misunderstood, as tho' every little Anxiety, Languor, uneasy

easy Feeling, and the like, must needs determine the Disorder to be the Febricula ; for a slight Disorder of this Kind, we all know, may be occasioned by a Multitude of little Accidents, without the Blood being any way vitiated ; and which, by the Use of very little Means, or even none at all, may soon go off again. But when the Chillinesses, Anxiety, Languor, Giddiness, Dispiritedness, &c. absolutely continue some Days, or increase, with a Whiteness or Dryness of the Tongue and Lips accompanying, tho' with little or no Thirst, or rather an Aversion to much Drinking, (which makes most People think it very strange, to call this a Fever ;) I say, when these Symptoms continue, or increase ; and a low, quick, unequal Pulse is found to accompany them, it is then, out of all Doubt, the true Febricula ; and proceeds from a Fault in the Blood, and Animal Spirits : And if that Fault be permanent, and these Symptoms are neglected, more violent

lent *Appearances* soon arise, personating other *Diseases*: And then, this little, neglected *Fever*, PROVES OF VERY DIFFICULT AND UNCERTAIN CURE, and too often becomes fatal in the End.

It is by no Means an uncommon Case, thro' the Neglect of this little Fever, for the Patient to be taken with a sudden Giddiness, followed by a Syncope, or entire Sounding away; at which Time, it is a Thousand to One, but, in the Hurry of this Accident, the Case is mistaken for an Apoplexy, or the like; and an officious Letting of Blood closes the melancholy Scene: Whereas, almost any Sort of Cordial, immediately poured down the Patient's Throat, or the applying volatile Salts and Spirits to the Nose, would soon recover them from the Fit; after which, by following the Practice proper for the Febricula, with the Application of Blisters, they might be perfectly restored. But it is certain, nothing is generally
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more fatal in this Distemper, than taking away of Blood.

I very much suspect, that many of the sudden Deaths we so often hear of in this great City, are owing, to the fatal Neglect of the seeming slight Disorder, in the Beginning of this Febricula : For we know, Diseases are not wont to attack Men on a sudden, but that it generally requires some Time to breed a Distemper. I hope, therefore, what I have advanced in the following Sheets, concerning the Nature and Cure of this obscure Fever, may be of some Service to Mankind ; tho' I could have wished, indeed, that this Task had been performed by an abler Pen.



THE
SYMPTOMS, &c.
OF THE
FEBRICULA.



THE *Febricula*, or *little, low, continued* Fever, the Subject of our present *Disquisitions*, is perfectly well described by HIPPOCRATES ; and is, indeed, at all Times, every where to be met with. Amongst us, it has been in a Manner *epidemical* for many Years past ; and is really attended with a greater *Variety* of strange and *threatening* Symptoms, than any other Fever whatever, even to the *personating* almost every other Disease ; when, at the same Time, the Fever
itself

itself is so *obscure*, that both the *Patient* and the *Physician* are very liable to be deceived.

The Patient, in the Beginning of the *Distemper*, seeming neither sick nor well, is too apt to neglect sending for Advice; till *alarmed* by more *conspicuous* Symptoms, the Physician is sent for in a great Hurry: And here, if the Physician, the *young* Practitioner especially, is so unhappy as to be *imposed* upon, or *mised*, as may be the Case, by any of the *casual* and more *prevalent* Symptoms, to the Neglect of this *little, obscure* Fever, the real *Cause* of those Symptoms, it too often proves of *fatal* Consequence; because *those* Symptoms, tho' so very *surprizing* and *violent*, can no otherwise be relieved, than by the *direct* Practice for the *Febricula* itself. All other Means only *increase* the Disorder, to the *Confusion*
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of the Physician, and the very *great Hazard* of the Patient's Life.

I have therefore thought it an Instance of Duty to the Public, to communicate what has fallen within the Verge of my Observation and Experience, with regard to this very *obscure* Fever, and its more *conspicuous* and *accidental* Symptoms ; hoping, by this Means, to *awaken* the Patients to a due Care of themselves, by pointing out the Danger that attends the *Neglect* of this *little* Fever in the Beginning ; and also to *direct* the *Attention* of the *young* Physicians, and thereby prevent *their* being *imposed* on by the many *false* Appearances, to be met with in this *latent* Illness ; besides which, it is proposed to assist the Physician in *distinguishing* these *false* Appearances, and to furnish him with a *successful* Method

Method of treating and curing this *little*, but too often *fatal*, Distemper.

This *Febricula*, or *little Fever*, as we hinted above, is every where to be met with, and is what all *Sorts* of People are liable to. And though it may take its Rise from innumerable *Antecedents*, yet, with us, it is most *frequently* brought on, and *continued*, by some Degree of an *impeded* Perspiration. Hence *Valetudinarians*, and Persons of *tender* and *delicate* Constitutions, and those in the *Decline* of Life, are principally exposed to its Attacks: Because Persons thus *formed* and *circumstanced* are extremely subject to every Impression from the least *sudden* Alteration of Weather, so common to our very *variable* Climate; insomuch that this Distemper seems in a Manner *peculiar* to our *Island*, and has indeed, often

often been observed to be *epidemical* amongst us.

It is very true, and merits Attention, that *all Fevers* are attended with many *casual* and *accidental* Symptoms. It therefore behoves the Physician to be at all Times ready and accurate in *distinguishing* between the *Fever* and its *Symptoms*. And daily Experience also confirms, that as Fevers of all Kinds *associate* themselves with every other Disease, so they often elude *that Method* of curing a Disease, which, without a Fever, has been generally found successful : An Observation, which well deserves particular Notice.

But as this *Febricula* is so very *obscure*, and often attended with a *greater Variety* of violent, though *accidental*, Symptoms than any other *Fever* ; it demands our *utmost* Application and

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Care not to be imposed on in the *Article* of *distinguishing* between the *Fever* and its *Symptoms*. Wherefore, that we may the more *accurately* discover the *true Nature*, and point out the proper Method of treating this Disease, with its various and *casual* Symptoms ; we think it expedient, in the first place, with what *Clearness* and *Brevity* we can, to speak of the *Nature* of *Fevers* in *general*, and to deduce from thence, the Method of *Practice* for the Cure of Fevers *universally* ; which we are inclined to think will give us the greatest Light into the *true Nature* of the *Febricula*, and of Consequence conduct us into the best Method of treating it.

Now, to avoid Confusion, and reduce within proper Bounds the great *Variety* of Fevers to be met with among Authors, we shall enquire into the *Nature*
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of a Fever universally from its Symptoms. For after we have explained a Fever in general from its Symptoms, we may then, from the diagnostic Signs of every particular Fever, discover the Nature of every particular Fever, and from their Nature fixed and assigned, the Causes of every particular Fever; and from the Discovery made of their Nature and Causes, we may see the Curableness or Incurableness of every particular Fever, as also the most direct and proper Methods of treating them: And among the rest, of this obscure Febricula, which has for many Years been very rife and fatal amongst us.

Now to this good End, we shall beg Leave to take to our Assistance HIPPOCRATES, SANCTORIUS, BELLINI, and our Countryman SYDENHAM.

HIPPOCRATES, *Lib. de Prisca Medicina*, plainly shews us, that it was his Opinion, that Fevers and all other Diseases take their Origin from *Second Qualities*; from whence he determines that *those Second Qualities* are chiefly to be considered as the *efficient* and principal Causes of Fevers. Wherefore, in order to cure Fevers, He observes, that our Regard must not be *merely* to extinguish the Heat, with, its contrary, *cold Things*; but that we ought chiefly to direct our Intentions to destroy the *predominant second Qualities*, joined with this Heat. *Morbos ex Repletionem ut curat Evacuatio, sic eos, qui ex Vacuatione sunt Repletio, & in ceteris Contrarietas remedio est* ^a. He therefore directs us to alter the *Bile*, to *dilute* plentifully, *incide* and *attenuate* the thick *viscid* Humours, or *Lentor* of the Blood and Humours, and to give a due *Consistence* to those Liquors

^a HIPPOCRATES, Aph. 22. S. 2.

quors which are too thin and *fluxile*; to correct the acquired *predominant Acridness*, and remove all *Obstructions* which may be occasioned by these *second Qualities*.

And to this Opinion of HIPPOCRATES, the most *distinguished* among the *antient* Physicians readily assented. And the most eminent among the *Moderns*, in Conformity with HIPPOCRATES, *Lib. de Prisc, Medicin.* universally agree, that as the *Blood* and *Juices*, by becoming *viscid*, *acrid*, and *hot*, bring on, of Consequence, an *universal Obstruction* of the *Lymphaticks*, *Capillaries*, or *Glands*, so these *vitiated* Juices, as they happen to fall on particular *Organs*, or *Bowels*, actually produce all those Symptoms and Appearances we meet with in Fevers, and which we find manifestly and particularly *explain-*

ed by the most *eminent* Authors who have *professedly* treated of Fevers.

Hence also it is agreed, that for the regular and adequate *Cure* of Fevers, Recourse must be had to proper *Evacuations*, *Dilution*, and *Medicines*, which attenuate the *viscid Blood* and *Juices*; and to give a due *Consistence* to those *Liquors* which are too thin and *fluxile*; taking care likewise to correct their acquired *Acridness*; bringing on the *Secretions* in due and proper Manner; and thereby reducing the Blood to its *natural Circulation*, which is Health. But to be able to apply these *general* Methods to *particular* Cases, requires *Judgment* and *Experience*, and great Attention even to the *minutest* Circumstances.

The *Division* of Fevers, left us by HIPPOCRATES, has been ever received
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by the *most judicious modern Physicians*, who have always acknowledged *him* the best Pattern we can copy after.

SANCTORIUS has fully informed us, how a Fever may be produced from an *impeded* Transpiration, by settling the Proportions of *Secretions*, in the 5th, 6th, 21st, and 59th *Aphorisms* of the *First Section* of his *Statical Medicine*. And it is agreed by all Physicians, that *Perspiration*, when we take Cold, is *not free* as in a *natural State*, but more or less *interrupted*; and in Consequence of which, a great deal of the Liquor commonly *separated* that Way, being detained in the Mass of Blood, cannot but proportionably increase its Bulk, and fill the Vessels, and by that Means become the *Source* of all those *Symptoms* which are observed in a *Fever*. And, indeed, a *Lentor* induced into the Blood, from taking cold, gives Rise most *frequently* to Fevers; and

those of the *worst* Sort, in this our extreme *variable* Climate.

BELLINI (who leads us into the Knowledge of Nature, by *Experiments*, and *mechanical Reasonings* on them) in his excellent Theory of Fevers, has given us the *Distinctions* of Fevers in *Conformity* with HIPPOCRATES, as far as was consistent with his *new* Manner of treating the Subject: And has shewn from SANCTORIUS, that this Disease often proceeds from an *Interruption* of Perspiration. He has also given us the *Affections* that are observed by common *Experience* to belong to each *particular* Division of Fevers; together with *general Propositions*, shewing in what manner the *Antecedents*, *Concomitants*, and *Consequences* of all Fevers necessarily produce *certain* Changes in the Blood, which are attended with *certain* Symptoms, and followed by *certain* inevitable Alterations of the Habit. After
which,

which, he pursues the *immediate* Cause, into all the *various* Shapes of Existence, as determined by its *Antecedents*; producing all the *Variety* of Appearances in *particular* Kinds of Fevers, illustrating the common Cause of *all* Fevers, explaining the several *Affections* peculiar to every *particular* kind of Fever; and therein shews, that a Fever has really but *one* Cause, though the various Appearances of Fevers are in a manner *infinite*: So that having thus the *Nature* of a Fever *universally* from its *Symptoms*, we are enabled to *discover* the *Nature* and *Cause* of any *particular* Fever, and from thence its *Cure*, be the Appearance of the *Symptoms* ever so *various* and complicated.

All Fevers are either *continual*, or *intermittent*. This *Distinction* includes all *Kinds* of Fevers that can possibly happen. As to *essential* and *symptomatical* Fevers, though the *former* are in them-

themselves a Disease, and come not after any other Disease, whereby they subsist; yet, the *symptomatical* or *secondary* Fevers, notwithstanding they do subsist by another Disease, are nevertheless of the same *Origin* and *Production* with other Fevers: They also depend upon a *Viscidit*y or *Lentor* in the Blood; so that *symptomatical*, or *secondary* Fevers are to be comprehended under the same *Genus*, as the others.

We say then, with BELLINI, there can be no *Fever* without some *Fault* in the *Blood*; and by *Blood* we mean whatever naturally flows through the Arteries and Veins; and a *Fault* in the *Blood* is the *certain Condition*, without which no *Fever* can subsist; and constitutes the very *Nature* and *Essence* of a *Fever*. And in every *Fever* the *Pulse* deviates from its *natural State*, and is indeed, the *pathognomonic* or *characteristic Sign*, which is common to every
Fever;

Fever ; directing us to know that there is a Fever, and what a Fever is in general: And *this* or *that* Fault in the Blood, determines the Fever to be of *this* or *that* Kind.

A Fever, therefore, is nothing else but a Blood *vitiated*, with respect to its *Quantity*, *Motion*, or *Quality*. The *Antecedents* to a Fever may vitiate the Blood, in these *Particulars*, but its *Concomitants* and *Consequences* necessarily depend upon its *vitiated Qualities*, agreeable to what HIPPOCRATES has long since taught us in his Book *de Prisc. Medicin.*

The Blood cannot be *vitiated*, unless it suffer some Alteration in its *Motion*, *Quantity*, or *Quality*: These are the several Ways by which it is *vitiated*; and with every one of these, the *Pulse* is disordered. So that there can be no
Fever

Fever without some *Fault* in the *Motion*, *Quantity*, or *Quality* of the Blood ; in *some*, or *all* of these together. And there are only *two Ways* of *vitiating* the Blood, that is, either in its *Principles*, or the *Qualities* thence resulting. And from these *two Properties* of the Blood the whole *Doctrine* of Fevers might be fully made out.

The Blood's *Quantity*, indeed, can never be increased to a *Plethora*, for above twenty-four Hours, while the *Fluidity* of the Blood is *natural* and *unchanged*. For the *Animal Oeconomy* teaches us, that the *Quantity* of the *Secretions* is, as the *Velocity* of the Blood ; and the *Velocity* of the Blood is always as its *Fluidity* : Therefore the *Quantity* of the Blood cannot be *increased*, while the Blood remains *natural* and *unchanged*. This is a *Proposition* of the greatest Use for *understanding*

standing and curing Diseases, and deserves to be duly attended.

A *Viscosity* or *Lentor* induced into the Blood, is the *allowed immediate Cause* of all Fevers which exceed twenty-four Hours : And from the different *Degree* of this *Viscosity*, all Fevers are to be accounted for. And probably, a very few *Kinds* of Fevers may comprehend all that *seeming Infinity* of Fevers to be met with among Authors, even up to the *Plague* itself. The Reason is, that they differ only in the *Degree* of *Lentor quoad magis & minus*.

Hence, the *different Kinds* of Fevers are as *specifically* distinct from one another, as any other *two Diseases*. And the *Plague*, which is the Top Degree of a Fever, has its *specific Marks*, distinguishing it from all other Fevers. Every Fever we know, is either *con-*
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tinued or *intermitting* : The *continued* is either *simple*, *periodical*, or *erratic* ; but the *intermitting*, only *periodical* or *erratic*. All Kinds of Fevers whatever, come out under this *easy*, *perspicuous*, and *necessary* Distinction.

A Fever, then, is a *præternatural* Motion of the Blood, accompanied with *Heat*, hurting several *Functions* of the Body ; and has for its *immediate* Cause, (if it exceeds twenty-four Hours) a *certain Viscidity* or *Lentor* induced into the Blood : And this *Lentor*, *differing* in Degrees of *Coherence*, and Times of *Solution*, produces all these *various* Symptoms which we meet with in Fevers : As a *disordered Pulse* ; greater or less *Heat* ; *sudden Weakness* ; a *Lassitude* or great *Feebleness* over all the Body ; *Coldness* in the *extreme* Parts, except the Brain ; *Pain* in the Bones ; remarkable *Thirst* ; the *Tongue* dry or white,

white, rough or black ; Difficulty of *Breathing* ; the *Breath* very hot ; *Deliriums*, and the like : All which *Symptoms* and *Appearances* arise from one and the same Cause, *differently* diversified ; as we find very *particularly* and *manifestly* made out by BELLINI, and other learned Authors, who have *laboured* this Subject.

Seeing therefore that HIPPOCRATES, SANCTORIUS, BELLINI, and other learned Physicians, have evidently shewn, in a most *natural* and *rational* Way, how a *Lentor* induced into the Blood, from an *Interruption* of Perspiration, with an acquired *Heat*, and *Acridness* in the *Blood* and Juices, produce *those Symptoms* in Fevers, in which the very *Nature* of a Fever consists : It follows, that this *assigned* Cause of a Fever, evidently producing all those Symptoms, does now plainly assure us, that the Supposition of an *Interruption*
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of *insensible* Transpiration, inducing a *Lentor* into the Blood, when a Person catches Cold, is really a *true Principle*; and is so far from being a *precarious* or *supposed* Cause only, that it is a real and true Cause of Fevers. For nothing can be the Cause of a Disease, that does not produce the *Symptoms* in which the *Nature* of the Disease consists.

Now, *insensible* Transpiration is a *Secretion*, which, every one knows, is of the greatest Use for the *Preservation* of Health. And *Physicians*, especially, are sensible, from the *Animal Oeconomy*, that if our Bodies were not all over *porous*, and the *Secretions* were not made by *insensible* Perspiration, we should be always in Danger of being *continually* in a *Fever*; for as much as the *Heat* of the Blood is from its *Motion*; and the *Heat* produced by the *Motion*, depends on the *Attrition* of the *Parts* containing the *Heat*; which *Parts* being divided,

divided, and separated from their Contact, give a Freedom to this *Heat* : So that while the Blood is only *propelled* in its *natural* State, if nothing should be *perspired*, there would *always* remain the same *Nisus* of the Parts, among one another ; on which Account, the *small* Parts would *always* be separated into the *Nerves*, *ad infinitum* ; by which means the Heart would be more and more *contracted* ; and consequently the *Velocity* of the Blood's *Motion*, which depends on the Contraction of the Heart, be more and more *augmented* ; and therefore we should *always* have a *Fever* : For a *Fever* is the *Velocity* of the *Blood* greater than *natural*, accompanied with *Heat* : But, by means of *Perspiration*, if the *Velocity* of the Blood's *Motion*, in that *Instant*, be not violent, we are *preserved* from a *Fever*.

In our Enquiry into the *Nature* of a *Fever* *universally* from its *Symptoms*,
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great Caution is required, (as we have elsewhere observed ^b) that we be not imposed upon by the *Multitude* of Appearances, which often accompany Fevers, and without *many* of which a Fever may exist. It behoves us, therefore, most diligently to single out, and separate those *particular Marks* only, which are present in *every Fever*, and without which a Fever *cannot subsist*; and from these *diagnostic Marks*, rightly *distinguished* and *examined*, we can only hope to *discover* the *Nature* of a Fever *universally*, and from thence to draw the *Indication* of Cure. And here, the *disordered Pulse* and *Heat*, in different Degrees, and at different Times of the Fever, are the *only Marks*, which, of all the Symptoms, are *ever present thro' the whole Course of the Fever* from Beginning to End; and from these *Marks alone* we judge a Fever to be present, and

^b Certain Method to know the Disease.

and from these also we discover its Nature.

Hence it is natural to observe, that the Method which gives us the Nature of a Fever *universally from its Symptoms*, is the only proper Expedient for reducing *within Bounds*, that infinite Variety of Fevers, which is to be met with in the Generality of Authors. And that *some Standard* of this Kind is quite necessary, is evident from hence; that if every *different Appearance* we meet with in Fevers, be allowed to make a *different* Fever, it will then be impossible to put an End to their Number.

Having the Nature of a Fever *universally from its Symptoms*, we are naturally led to the Cure of Fevers *universally and particularly*. And it is constantly observed in Experience, that whatever Methods and Medicines will alter the Quality of the Blood and Hu-
C 2 mours ;

inours ; or will take off the *Quantity*, and alter the *Quality* of the Blood and Humours, will effectually take off the Fever.

HIPPOCRATES informs us, and our own Experience cannot but confirm the Observation, that those People who have *Fevers*, and are left to themselves, and take no Medicines, if they do recover, get rid of their Fevers by *Sweating*, a *Looseness*, an *Hæmorrhage*, *Diabetes*, or the like ; from whence *Hippocrates*, and the antient Practitioners in Physic, took their first Intimation to provoke Sweat, and the other *Evacuations* : And from their repeated Observations and Successes, they have formed for us a most *rational* Method of Cure. For as all *acute Fevers* arise from a *Plenitude*, or Fulness, it is no Wonder that *sensible* Evacuations are produced in the End of *those Fevers* : And that some of the abovementioned

Discharges,

Discharges, either as the Efforts of *Nature*, or as brought about by *Medicines*, should put an End to the Fever, according to the Disposition the Blood has by an *assignable* Power.

Hence we find, that the best *general Method* of curing *acute* Fevers, is agreed to be that of consulting the *Strength* of the Patient, lessening the *Quantity*, and correcting the *Quality* of the Blood, dissolving and expelling its *Lentor*, and mitigating the several *Symptoms*. And indeed, since a *Lentor* induced into the Blood, is the *immediate Cause* of all Fevers, which exceed twenty-four Hours; and that from the different Degrees, the greater and lesser *Cohesion*, and the different Times of *Solution* of this *Lentor*, all Fevers whatever, and their Symptoms, are produced: It must needs be, that those Methods and Medicines, which *take off the Quantity*, and which *thin*, and

alter the Quality of the Blood, will take off the Fever effectually : And this, we know, in acute Fevers, may be done by Bleeding, Vomiting, Diluting, Purg- ing, Diaphoretical, Medicines, &c.

But *Diaphoretics, properly timed and dosed, after Bleeding, if indicated, and gently emptying the Primæ Viæ, are known to be most effectual : Because Diaphoretics, properly administred, more certainly alter the Quality, as well as lessen the Quantity, of the Blood, by taking off the Lentor, the Cause of the Fever, and thereby bringing the Secre- tions to their natural State and Condi- tion ; as SANCTORIUS clearly demon- strates, and our daily Experience con- firms : And this, without weakening the Powers of the Faculties, as Bleed- ing and Purg- ing too much insisted on may do. And indeed, the right Use of diaphoretical Remedies in Fevers, which only operate by insensible Perspi- ration,*

ration, bids the fairest for the most *universally successful* Practice in all Fevers ; after *Bleeding* and emptying the *Primæ Viæ*, when *indicated*, have took Place.

We know also, from *repeated* Experience, that *Diaphoretics*, properly dosed, and mixed with a small Quantity of *Sperma Ceti*, will take off all *Inflammations*, where we have Time to do it, even without *Bleeding*. For as *Sperma Ceti* is an *animal* Oil, it mixes with the Blood *more freely* and *naturally* than any other Oil, and in a most singular Manner *lubricates* the Vessels, keeping them from being too *tense* and *rigid*, and greatly *dissolves* the *Lentor* of the Blood ; and is indeed always of admirable Use, thus mixed with *diaphoretic* Powders, in all Fevers accompanied with *Pain*, especially ; not but if *Bleeding* can be safely used, it will do it sooner. And where *Bleeding*

in *Inflammations* cannot *safely* be administered, we know not a better Remedy than *Lap. Contrayerv. mixed with Sperm. Cet. and volatile Salts*, with moderate *Dilution*; which moderate Dilution makes the Medicine insinuate itself, imparting at the same time, a *proper Degree of Coolness and Heat*.

But, in high *inflammatory Fevers*, which admit of *Bleeding*, a greater Degree of *Dilution* will always be necessary. For, as HIPPOCRATES observes, it is a first *Principle* to be laid down, in the Cure of all *acute Fevers*, to do every Thing which may ~~increase~~ *increase Humidity*, and to dilute *plentifully*, while we make use of *attenuating Medicines*.

There are but *few Distempers* which admit of a Cure, without *increasing*, or *lessening some Evacuation*: Wherefore, the *Doctrine of Secretions* ought diligently

gently to be regarded and enquired into; more especially to enable us to practise *successfully* in Fevers by *Diaphoretics*. And as the *Secretion* by the Pores is near *double* of all the others; that is, *insensible Transpiration* is to all the sensible Evacuations, as five to three: So where the *Evacuation*, can be performed by *Diaphoretics*, it bids the fairest for the most *universal* Method of curing Fevers. But this Practice by *Diaphoretics* must be carried on by such Remedies only, as promote *insensible* Perspiration. For should the Medicines given in the *early State* of the Fever, approach too near *Sudorifics*, (especially if given to Persons in a Fever who are *young*, and have *abundance of Blood*, and *that* very thick) their Operation will, by over-sweating, be such, as will increase its *Velocity* too much; in Consequence of which, the *Secretions* will not be made, and the
Fever

Fever will be driven on to greater Excesses.

SYDENHAM, who was one of the most *accurate Observers* among the *Moderns*, and a careful Follower of HIPPOCRATES, has, with great *Exactness*, described the *Fevers* of *particular Constitutions*, from their *Appearances*; and given the Method of treating them: And in his *Schedula Monitoria*, his latest and most mature Work, has observed a *new Winter epidemical Fever*, wherein *Bleeding* and *Purging after it*, proved very successful. In this Piece he also asserts in *general*, that he has found the Method of Cure by *bleeding*, and *purging afterwards*, more *powerful* than any other for the *subduing* of Fevers of *most Kinds*. And indeed, in *acute Fevers*, from the abounding *Quantity* of *Blood* and *Humours*, where we can, after *bleeding*, evacuate sufficiently by Stool, without *heightening* the Motion
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of the Blood too much, *purgings* may be certainly a *rational* and *safe Practice* in the Cure of Fevers.

Vomiting, when indicated, is often of excellent Service in the Cure of Fevers, especially *Intermittents*; as it cleanses the *Primæ Viæ*, and by its *Action attenuates* and prepares the Humours for a *cuticular Discharge*.

The applying of *Blisters*, we find, produces extraordinary good Effects in the most *desperate* Cases of Fevers; by moderating the *Distemper*, and bringing on a *finishing Crisis* in a Day or two, and often sooner. This great Advantage is obtained by the Wounds the Particles of *Cantharides* make in the Branches of the 8th Pair of Nerves, which run into the Heart. And there are *certain Periods* in Fevers, when Blisters may be of great Service, and when they may become very hurtful.

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We ought to be very cautious, how we apply Blisters *too soon* in Fevers, while the *Fibres* are very *rigid* and *tense*; the *Heat* very great; and the *Pulse* exceeding *full*, *strong*, and *quick*: notwithstanding the *Head* and *Nerves* should be affected in the Beginning of this Disease. For those who are *delirious*, with an *acute* Fever, and have a *parched* Tongue, die quickly upon the Application of blistering Plaisters, and most fall into Convulsions. It is very dangerous, and often fatal, to apply Blisters in the *very early* Days of *puerperal* Fevers. But when Blisters are *properly* applied towards the *stationary* Period of the Fever, when the Solids begin to flag, and stand in need of a *Stimulus*, they do great Service: So again, where the *Disease* is attended with an *universal* Laxity of all the *Fibres* of the Body, as is the Case in the *Febricula*, or *little* Fever. But while the *Vessels* and *Fibres* are too rigid and dry,

dry, and the *Blood* and *Lymph* are *viscous*, merely by the *Intenseness* of the Heat, Blisters ought to be avoided, as very improper and hurtful.

When Blisters are applied, and no *Vesication* follows, it is a very ill Sign; because it necessarily signifies a *new and prodigious Hardness* in the Skin and Vessels, and such a *Thickening* of Blood as threatens a farther and total Stop.

It is observable in the *Cure* of Fevers, that Physicians recommend *Bleeding*, *Vomiting*, *Glisters*, *Purging*, *Sweating*, and the Application of *Blisters*. All which Methods, as they have their *Excellency* on *proper* Occasions, so they have all, likewise, their Disadvantages. For though these *different Ways* of Practice have been successful at *certain* Times; yet they are not to be used *promiscuously*, and all at once. It is there-

therefore the *Physician's* Business to *discover* those *proper Circumstances* in Fevers, when Methods and Medicines of one Sort, are like to produce better Effects, than those of another ; because an *indifferent Use* of *these Methods* and *Medicines* in Fevers, is *quite injudicious*, and cannot but produce very bad Effects.

Again, Physicians know, that there are *several Chemical Preparations* of *Antimony*, and the like, which shall work very powerfully upwards and downwards, and afterwards bring on *Sweating* in a *plentiful Manner*, and by that Means put an End to Fevers in a very short Time. But if these Preparations are not made with the greatest *Exactness* and *Judgment*, or are not kept from *Air* and *Moisture* with the utmost Care ; their Effects will be very *uncertain* : Sometimes producing scarce any Evacuation at all, and at other Times

Times operating with the *greatest* Violence. So that *prudent* Physicians, who know much *safer* Remedies, and how *properly* to administer them; seldom care to run the *Hazard* of giving these *uncertain*, and sometimes very *dangerous* Medicines.

Besides, was the Physician ever so well assured of the faithful and judicious preparing, and diligent preserving of these Medicines; yet it seldom happens that he is applied to *early enough* by the Patient, for the *proper* administering of them. Wherefore, most of these Kinds of Medicines fall chiefly to the Share of Persons *unqualified* for the Practice of Physic, who may very easily obtain *Recipes* of this Kind; and who are ever ready to give them *at all Seasons* of Distempers, if the Patient will *venture* to take them. And though these *powerful* Medicines, in *unskilful* Hands, are sometimes attended with

with *surprizing* Success, yet they much oftener do *abundance* of Mischief, than produce any Good. And, indeed, *such* is generally the *Consequence* attending all very *powerful* and *efficacious* Medicines, where the *perfect* Knowledge of *administering* them, in the most *proper* Dose, and at the most *proper* Times of the Disease, is wanting.

And it is *this* Knowledge which is really the only true *Arcanum* in the Practice of Physic. A Knowledge, which can only be come at by a *previous* and *exact* Acquaintance with the *Animal Oeconomy*, joined with *Experience*. It is by *these* Means only, that any one can be enabled to *know* the Disease; to *explore* the *Power* and *Efficacy* of Remedies; and *properly* to administer them. And it cannot, I think, but be *obvious* to every one's Apprehension, who will give himself the least Time to consider; that all
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Strong-operative Medicines, given at *random*, must needs be attended with a great deal of *Mischief*; although sometimes, by Chance, very *surprising* Cures may be performed by them. And that People of all *Conditions* should be found so *rashly inconsiderate*, as to take these *powerful* Medicines, even from the most *unskilful* Hands, is what we cannot easily account for.

Having given this Account of the *Nature* and *Cure* of Fevers, not only as agreeable to the *best* Authorities, and most *approved* Theory on the Subject, but also as supported and confirmed by the most *successful Practice* in *Fevers*, we shall now proceed to enquire particularly into the *Nature* of the *Febricula*, or *little, continued* Fever; in order to direct us to the most *natural* and *rational Method* of treating and curing this Disease. And here, to discover the *Nature* of this *Febricula*, we

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shall pursue *that Plan* which we have elsewhere laid down for *investigating* and *finding out* the *Nature* of all *Diseases*; which is what we apprehend, the most *natural* and *certain* ^c *Clue* in Enquiries of *this Sort*.

It is then, I suppose, allowed, by all *Physicians*, that in a *Collection* of the *Symptoms* of any *Disease*, the *Nature* of that *Disease* may be found; it being alone by the *Symptoms* that we are at first led to discover the *Disease*; after that, the *Nature* of the *Disease*; and from thence the *Method of Cure*.

We shall therefore, first of all, enumerate the *Symptoms* usually attending this *Febricula*, or *little Fever*, in order to *discover* the *Disease* and its *Nature*: After that, we shall *distinguish* those *Symptoms*, regarding chiefly the *inseparable* and *diagnostic Signs* or *Marks* of

of this *Febricula*, which will most likely conduct us to the *immediate* and *conjunct* Cause, from whence we must always take our *Indications* of Cure.

Now the *Symptoms* of a Disease, are only the *Effects* of some Cause, or some Number of Causes, which *pervert* and *overturn* the *natural Action* of one or more Parts; therefore being apprized of the *perverted Action*, we *discover* the Disease: Because nothing can be the Cause of a Disease, that does not produce the *Symptoms* in which the *Nature* of the Disease consists. And till we have the *Nature* and *Causes* of this *Febricula*, or *little, continued Fever*, from its *Symptoms*; we cannot hope to come at the *natural* and *rational Method* of curing it.

But here, we must take *especial* Care, rightly to *distinguish* the *inseparable* Symptoms from those, which are ca-

sual and accidental only ; otherwise we shall fail in finding out the Nature of the Febricula ; it being from the constant and inseparable Symptoms only, that we can ever hope to discover the true Nature and Causes of any Disease : And it is again from those inseparable Marks, that we must take our Indications of Cure, if we desire to obtain such a Method as may prove successful.

The Symptoms of the *Febricula*, or *little, low, continued Fever*, are commonly these which follow : *Viz.* *little transient Chillinesses*, often in a Day ; a *Giddiness*, or *Mist* before the Eyes ; a *Listlessness*, with great *Lassitude* and *Weariness* all over the Body ; frequent *Yawnings*, with *little flying Pains* ; *Doziness*, *Inappetency*, *Dryness* of the *Lips* and *Tongue* ; *Sighings*, with great and *unaccountable Anxiety* ; and sometimes the Patient is a little *delirious* and *forgetful*, by Fits ; finds an *Oppression* and
Pain

Pain about the *Region of the Heart* and *Stomach*; a *Difficulty in Breathing*, by *Intervals*; having the *Tongue* generally *white*, but sometimes *redder* than ordinary, together with a *Heat* in the *Tongue*; a *low, quick, unequal Pulse*; *Heat* and *Drought* but moderate; *pale Urine*, often and *suddenly* made; frequent *Nausea's*, and *Flushings*; subject to faint on every, the *least Motion*, or *Surprize*; attended with cold *clammy Sweats by Turns*. These *Symptoms*, more or less, usually accompany the *Febricula*, and will last *thirty or forty Days*, unless *Stupors*, *Syncopes*, and *Death* come on sooner, and end the *Scene*.

Having thus made ourselves acquainted with the *most common* Symptoms attending the *Febricula*, our next Care, in order to find out the *Nature* of the Disease, will be to *distinguish* the *diagnostic Signs*; that is, those Symp-

toms which are *always present* ; which begin and end with this Disease ; most carefully *distinguishing* those, from such as are *casual* only, and do not always accompany the Disease : And here we must *remember*, that the *disordered Pulse* is a constant Attendant, and denotes the Disease to be truly a *Fever*.

Now, the *particular Kind of Pulse* attending this *Febricula*, demands our most diligent Attention ; which we find to be *low, quick, and unequal* : That is, for a few Strokes, it shall be more *swift, frequent, and large* ; presently returning again to be *low and quick* : And in this consists its greatest *Inequality*. Now this *Kind of Pulse* is the *characteristic Mark* of the *Febricula*, which proceeds from a *vitiating and impoverished* State of the *Blood*, with a Diminution of its *Quantity*, not affording a *due Secretion* of the *animal Spirits* in

in the *Brain*, and a proper *Conveyance* from thence to the other Parts of the System, with respect both to *Quantity* and *Quality*; together with a *relaxed* Habit of Body; introduced by the above *vitiated* State of the *Blood*. Hence that great Variety of *dreadful* Appearances, so often met with in this *little* Fever, especially when neglected.

The *Seat* of this Disease, therefore, is in the *Blood* and *animal Spirits*, which suffer from a *particular Lensor vitiating* those *Fluids*, and impeding their due Separation. And as this Distemper arises from the *Causes* now assigned, so it is often occasioned, and continued from too profuse an Expence of the *Blood*, and *Spirits* when *secerned*; joined with an *universal* Flaccidity and Relaxation of the Fibres of the Body. And these together produce all that *Variety* of *Affections*, to be met with in this *little* Fever; which, if neglect-

ed, or improperly treated, bring on more *conspicuous*, and very *terrible* Symptoms in the End; such, in short, as shall even *personate* almost *every other Disease*. For which Reason it is very evident, that we ought always to be most careful in *distinguishing* between the *Disease* itself, and the *Symptoms* which may accompany it.

And, indeed, in our *Enquiry* into the *true Nature* of *all* Fevers, we must take especial Care lest we are misled by the *Multitude* of Symptoms, which often attend them; some of which are also more *conspicuous* than ordinary; therefore the more likely to mislead us, and baulk our Enquiries into the true *Nature* of the Disease. For those very *conspicuous* Symptoms, are, in reality, no more than mere *casual* and *secondary* Symptoms, and no *true* and *proper Signs* or *Marks* of the Fever; but merely *Symptoms of Symptoms*. Where-

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as the *diagnostic Marks*, or those Appearances which are *constantly present*, more or less, in *every* Distemper, beginning, continuing, and ending with the Disease; even when many of the other Symptoms *often attending* are absent: These *diagnostic Signs* only, we say, are to be *observed* and *diligently weighed*, in order to discover the *true Nature* of any Disease.

Now, as we *constantly* observe in the *Febricula*, or *low, continued Fever*, that the *Pulse* is *depressed, quick, and unequal*; and that this *disordered Pulse* is *present*, more or less, during the *whole Time* of the Fever; it is most certainly *this Kind of Pulse*, thus *continuing*, that is the very *Characteristic and distinguishing Mark* of the *Febricula*: And the *immediate Cause* of this *disordered Pulse*, must be the *immediate Cause* of the *Febricula* or *low Fever* itself. And all the *various Appearances*,
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which we meet with in *this Fever* (according to the *Diversity* of Bodies, and their *various* and different Dispositions) are the *Effects* of the *same Cause*, subsisting or increasing: At the same Time, that the *immediate Cause* itself, may be owing to *innumerable antecedent Causes*; such as *Grief*, great *Sollicitude*, *Watchings*, *intense Thought* and *Study*; *taking Cold*; *undue* and *profuse Evacu-ations*, with the like. For whatever will *vitate* or *impoverish* the Blood, rendering some Parts *more gross* and *viscid*, and others *more fluid* than natural; or whatever may induce this *particular Lensor* into the Blood, which consequently injures *that*, and the *animal Spirits*; will inevitably produce this *little Fever*.

The Case is the same where the Blood is only *slightly* vitiated, provided that *Fault* be *permanent*. It may also proceed from *Obstructions*, spoiling some
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of the *Viscera*; under which Circumstance, *particular* Regard must always be had to the *injured Viscus*; while the *proper* Practice for the *little* Fever must be constantly pursued.

Having thus enquired into the *Nature* of this *Febricula*, and *particularly* noted the *disordered Pulse*; the *Dryness* of the *Tongue* and *Lips*; the great *Anxiety*; *universal* Lassitude and *Dispiritedness*; the *diagnostic* and most *constant* Signs of this *little* Fever; together with its *immediate* Cause: That is, the *particular Fault*, or *Lentor* induced into the *Blood*, *vitiating* the *Blood* and *animal* Spirits, and hindering the due *Secretion* of animal Spirits in the *Brain*: And having likewise observed, that it may take its *Origin* from a *Multitude* of *antecedent* Causes; and that we find it is chiefly, amongst us, brought on, and continued, by some *Degree* of an *impeded* Transpiration, by reason of
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the *delicate* and *tender* Constitution of those who are *most* subject to this Disease ; and the *sudden Varieties* and great *Inclemency* of the Air in our Climate, unavoidably producing this *particular* Lentor in the Blood : We are hence naturally led to our *Indications* of Cure ; which are *properly* to *correct*, *subdue*, *dissolve*, and *expel* this *Lentor*, the *material Cause* of the Distemper ; to consider by what Means we may restore the *relaxed* and *flaccid* State of the Fibres, and bring on a *due* and *regular Secretion* of the *Animal Spirits* ; as also how we may prevent any *profuse* Expence of *Spirits* when *secerned* ; and supply a Defect of this Kind by such Remedies, and Aliment, as will *invigorate*, but not *over-heat* the Blood.

It has been observed, that in *all* Fevers, whenever the *Lentor*, the *material Cause* of a Fever, is once dissolved and expelled, that then the Fever is at
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an End ; and that this is effected by due and proper *Bleeding*, emptying the *Primæ Viæ*, administering proper *Diaphoretics*, Dilution, &c. But it is worthy Notice, that in this *Febricula*, or little Fever, the *Lentor*, or Fault in the Blood, may be so altered, as to terminate the Fever by *insensible Transpiration* alone ; while the remaining Blood may be so corrected and amended, as not to stand in need of Expulsion, as in other Fevers. Wherefore the *Method of Treatment* here, is the due and proper Administration of gentle volatile Medicines, such in particular as are cordial and diaphoretic, by that Means promoting the desired Transpiration ; the Application of *Blisters* ; and avoiding, in the mean Time, whatever may fatigue ; using likewise a proper Regimen, and Method of Diet. By this Process, the Blood, in the *Febricula*, may be brought to its natural Circulation, which is Health.

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As this *little* Fever does not arise from a *Plethora* or Fulness, so we never find it attended with any *remarkable critical Discharge* ; nor will it often bear any *other Evacuation*, than moderate cordial *Diaphoretics* and Blisters ; except where a *gentle Emetic* in the Beginning of the Illness may be indicated, or a small Dose of *Rhubarb* when it has continued long.

But in those Fevers, where the *offending Quantity* and *Quality* of the Blood, cannot be dissolved, corrected, and amended, in such Manner as to be perfectly expelled by *insensible Perspiration*, the Fever often terminates in some of the *usual Evacuations* before mentioned, after due *Concoction* ; and that often in about the Space of *fourteen Days* ; though sometimes indeed it is much longer ; unless by *early Bleeding*, and other *proper Administrations*, we anticipate, and shorten the natural Course

Course those Fevers would *generally* take, if left to themselves : And *this* we are often able to effect, with the greatest Safety and Relief to Nature, by a timely and *judicious* Administration of *Bleeding, Vomiting, Clysters, Diaphoretics, &c.*

The Case, however, as was suggested above, is *quite different*, respecting this *Febricula*, or *little, low, continued Fever*, which not taking its Rise from a Plenitude, or Fulness, rarely admits of any *Evacuations*, but the very *moderate ones*, just mentioned. For *Bleeding* in this Illness, it must be observed, is an Evacuation generally very *prejudicial*. And though some of the *Febricula's* more *conspicuous* Symptoms, for Want of due Attention, may seem to *indicate* Bleeding ; yet it is *constantly* observed to be *contrary* to its Nature, and, for the most Part, ought to be avoided ; unless, when the *little Fever*

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is accompanied with, or proceeds from, some very great *Injury* in any of the *Viscera*, &c. of which we shall speak hereafter.

Now, though the *Febricula* yields readily to *gentle*, *cordial*, and *diaphoretical* Remedies; yet it is not always easy to know, how *duly* to *dose* and *continue* these Remedies, so as that the *diaphoretical* Evacuation be not *too liberal*, and yet be *liberal* enough; here, therefore, our utmost Care is required.

With respect to our being too liberal in the Use of these Medicines, the Point is not so difficult: Because we cannot avoid knowing this, from our bringing on *Sweat*, with an *increased Heat*, and *Restlessness*, &c. And *Experience* fully confirms this Observation, that *Sweating*, in the present *little Fever*, is very *improper* and *hurtful*. But to inform ourselves when we are *not liberal*

liberal enough in the Use of our *diaphoretical* Remedies, is a Matter of some Difficulty. Here, therefore, we would always advise, that particular Regard be had to the *Urine*, as a Guide. This is a *secreted* Liquor, which we can examine *the best*, and is such as will truly *discover* the *State* of the Blood, especially its *Thickness* or *Thinness*.

And if, from being *pale*, it gradually heightens to an *Amber* Colour, we are then *right in our Dose*; especially if, when in Bed, a kindly *Dew* or *Moisture* comes on, without a *Restlessness*. These Hints will also, in a great Measure, direct us how to *continue*, *increase*, or *diminish* the Dose of our *diaphoretical* Remedies. For a *diaphoretical Practice*, not *too liberal*, is the *proper* Method of Treatment in the *Febricula*. And this we may take with us by the way, that the half of a *Su-*

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dorific is generally the *due* Dose of a *Diaphoretic*.

Our great Caution, then, in the Use of *these Remedies*, must be, that we do not bring on *Sweatings*; the Consequence of which would be, that we should keep up this *little* Fever, and produce more *conspicuous* and *terrible Symptoms*, to the great Hazard of the Patient: But, on the contrary, we should practise, as has been directed, with a View to *insensible* Perspiration; administering at the same Time *Broths*, and *liquid Food* of good Nourishment and easy Digestion: Further remembering, that it is absolutely necessary the Patient be kept *still* and *quiet*. We must also beware of overmuch *cooling* and *diluting*; which is by no means agreeable to the *Genius* of this *little* Fever. And the Fact is, that the Patients themselves at this Time are rather averse to *much* Drinking.

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If the Patients are inclined to *Deliquia* or *Faintings* on every the least Motion; or complain of *greater* Lassitude and *Faintness* than ordinary; it will then be quite necessary, that they should keep *in Bed* for a few Days, and that Blisters be applied. And farther, where they incline to be *delirious*, (as it often happens in this *little* Fever) and the Pulse is *very low* and *quick*; a Blister *high* on the *Nape* of the Neck, we have always found, of the greatest Service; and this from its exciting *Pain*, and *attenuating* the Liquors, rather than by its Evacuation: And, indeed, Experience confirms, that no Fever bears *Blistering* better than this *little* Fever.

A few Grains of *Flores Martiales*, where the Patient is *restless*, and cannot *sleep*, added to the *diaphoretical* Medicines, will often *procure Sleep*, in a very *kindly* Manner, and is also good for the *Fever* itself, when *Opiates* shall

only add to the Disorder. And if *loose* Stools are not feared, we may be *more liberal* in the Use of the *Flores Martiales*, to very good Advantage.

It sometimes happens in the *Febri-cula*, that there shall be a *Drought* without a *Dryness* of the *Tongue*; but not without a *Heat* in the *Tongue*: A *Symptom* worthy our Notice. And, indeed, the *smallest Appearances* on the *Tongue* help to determine the *Nature*, and to conduct us in the *Management* of every *Fever*, through the whole Time of the *Cure*; as is allowed by all Physicians.

Now, that the *Nature* of this *Febri-cula* consists in a *particular Fault*; or *Lentor* in the *Blood*, *vitiating* and *impeding* the due *Secretion* of *Animal Spirits* in the *Brain*, is clear to a *Demonstration*, from the *low, quick, and unequal Pulse*; the *universal Lassitude* and
Languor

Languor of the Body; the *Relaxation* of the Fibres; and the great *Sollicitude* and *Anxiety* accompanying it. Nor is this all: For its *yielding* only to *volatile* and *temperate* Cordials, and *diaphoretical* Remedies; to Blisters, and a *nourishing* Diet of *easy Digestion*, as Broth, &c. its being only *duly treated* by keeping the Patient *quiet*; and its by no means bearing either *Bleeding* or *Purg- ing*: These are severally further *Lights* into, and *Confirmations* of, the *Nature* of this *little* and *obscure*, though too often, most *fatal* Fever. Add to this, that the *Success* attending our Medicines, is a *farther Proof* in our Favour: I mean, that we *judge right* concerning the *Nature* of this *Disease*, agreeable to that Observation of HIPPOCRATES: *Medicina indicat Morbum*.

Hence, by the way, we see how necessary, the due *comparing* of the *Disease* with the *Remedy*, is in *Physic*.

But this, we must remember at the same Time: That unless the *Nature* of the Disease be rightly known, the *Virtue* of the *Medicine* is depended upon in vain. For the *Virtue* or *Faculty* of any Medicine, is no other, than its *Power* of eradicating the *immediate* Cause of the Disease; which *Effect* is discovered from *knowing*, first, the *Nature* of the Disease. And repeated Observation and Experience has confirmed us in this Truth, that the *Febricula*, of which we treat, will best yield to the *Medicines* and *Regimen* already prescribed; and that, even where *Symptoms* and *Appearances* the most *conspicuous* and terrible may arise: For Instance, such, as shall *personate* almost all other Diseases; unless when any of the *Viscera* are quite or nearly spoiled.

Hence also we learn, how much it is the Business and Duty of the Physician, accurately to acquaint himself
with

with all the *various Dispositions* and *Inclinations* of the *Blood* and *Humours*; and diligently to explore the *Virtue* of his *Remedies*; the better to enable him to judge and determine what *Medicines* are most proper to be applied, and in *what Proportions*. And, in Truth, it is in *these Particulars*, that the *rational Physician* is *chiefly distinguished* from the *Empiric*.

Again, we from hence farther observe, how necessary a *right Theory* is in the *Practice* of *Physic*, such, for Example, as is grounded on *repeated Experience* and *Observation*. *Non satis est, says HIPPOCRATES, hanc Artem Ratione noscere, sed & in Usum Exercitatione est traducenda* ^d. And, indeed, where a *true Theory* is deduced from *repeated Observation* and *Experience*, the greatest *Success* in *Practice* may reasonably be expected. And we then

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^d Lib. de Articulis, p. 828.

only can be said to make a *true* and *proper Use* of our *Knowledge* in *Philosophy*, and the *Animal Oeconomy*, with regard to the *Practice* of *Physic*, when we reason on *real Facts*, grounded on *repeated Experience* and *Observation*; which ought never to give Way to *Speculation* or *Theory*, upon any Account whatever. For, as the great NEWTON justly observes, whatever is not deduced from *Phænomena*, is *Hypothesis*.

Having thus endeavoured to discover the true *Nature* and *Causes* of this *Febricula*, and communicated the Method we have always found most successful in the treating and curing this *obscure* Disease; we shall, in the next place, proceed to shew the *Success* that has attended our Method, when the *Febricula* has been accompanied even with very *conspicuous* and *terrible* Symptoms, *personating* other Distempers:
And

And shall, at the same time, *point* out the Way of *distinguishing* the *Febricula*, or *little* Fever, from the *other* Distempers, whose *Form* and *Shape* it so often seems to put on.

But here, we must, first, *particularly* remind the *young* Practitioner (agreeable to our ^e Method) that, in order to qualify us to *collect* the Symptoms of Diseases from our *Patients*, in a regular, judicious, and useful Manner, (such as shall *accurately* direct us into the true *Nature* of the Disease, and to *distinguish* its *false* Appearances) it will be absolutely necessary, besides an accurate Acquaintance with the *Structure* and *Nature* of the Fluids and Solids of the human Body, that we be also perfectly well *read* in the *Histories* of Diseases, delivered to us by the *best* *antient* and *modern* Observers. For the great Difficulty of collecting Symptoms
from

^e Certain Method to know the Disease, 2d Edit.

from the *sick* Person, I mean such as shall direct us into the *Nature* of the Disease, arises, not barely, either from the Want of *personal Sagacity*, or from *Ignorance* in the *Animal Oeconomy*; but also and especially, from being but *superficially* acquainted with the *Descriptions* of Diseases left us by the *Antients*. And indeed, Physicians generally fail in distinguishing one Disease from another, and the Disease itself from its *Symptoms*, in their *Patients*; because they are not sufficiently acquainted with that most perfect Knowledge, which results from the admirable *Descriptions* of antient Physicians.

Experience alone, as HIPPOCRATES observes, is certainly too *fallacious* to be depended on; so that *Reason* and *Experience*, as we have shewn above, in the *Opinion* of that Great Man, must always contribute their joint Assistance in the *Practice* of Physic.

And

And it is in the *Article* of separating all *foreign* and *accidental* Symptoms from the *constant* and *proper* Phænomena, when we record the *Histories* of Diseases, that HIPPOCRATES complains of the *Falaciousness* of *Experience*. For, as we find our Experiments prove often *false*, and often *contradictory*, before any great Progress is made in observing; and that both the *true* and *false* Observations claim an equal Right of being believed, they being equally vouched for by *Experience*; therefore, Physicians have now taken another Method for *correcting* their Observations, and for rectifying the *Errors* of mere *Experience*; and have, in a *rational* Manner, drawn their *Indications* from the *Nature* of Diseases; and the *Nature* of the Disease from the *diagnostic* Signs.

Now, *diagnostic* Signs are the *proper* Business of *Observation*; but *Indications*
of

of Cure, arise from our *Reasoning* upon those *Observations*; which *Reasoning* we are by no Means qualified to manage, without a good Degree of Knowledge in the *Animal Oeconomy*. So that *Diagnostics* and *Indications* are of a *different Nature*; *these* being *Conclusions*, and *they* a *Collection* of *Particulars* only.

By *this* Method, therefore, of finding out the *Nature* of Diseases, the *Moderns* are really enabled to make a better Use of the excellent *Descriptions* of Diseases left us by the *Antients*, than they themselves were, with regard to the *true Cause* of the Disease; by correcting the Errors of *mere Experience*, in the Manner we have said; and by employing the many useful and *late Discoveries*, unknown to the Antients, in *Anatomy* and the *Animal Oeconomy*, in *such* a Manner, as gives us a clear Light into the Nature of Diseases.

Now,

Now, as this *Febricula*, or *obscure little* Fever, shall, at Times, put on very *different* Shapes, even to the *personating* almost all other Diseases ; it is of the utmost Consequence to be able to *distinguish* the Fever itself, from its more *conspicuous*, but *accidental*, Symptoms. We shall therefore point out the Method in general, of *distinguishing* those *false* Appearances from the *true* Symptoms of this Distemper : And shall shew *several Particulars* of this Kind, which have *often* fallen under our *own* Observation and Practice, which may be of Service to the *young* Practitioner, in rendering him less liable to be misled by the many *false* Appearances of *other* Diseases, to be met with in this *obscure* Fever.

And here we must exhort him, always most carefully to attend to the *Kind of Pulse*, the chief and *constant diagnostic Mark* of this Distemper : And that he
has,

has, moreover, his *Memory* very well furnished with the true and *proper* Signs, necessarily required to be *present*; to denominate and *distinguish* each other *particular* Distemper. And being thus qualified, we think he cannot easily be imposed upon, by the *false* Appearances of this, or any other Distemper. But this, indeed, is a very *arduous* Task: Nevertheless, *absolutely* necessary for the successful Practice of Physic. For it is the *accurate* Knowledge of the *Descriptions* of *all* Diseases, and *duly* *comparing* them, that must enable us rightly to *distinguish* one Disease from another, and the Disease itself from its *Symptoms* in our *Patients*: And, indeed, *this* is the Qualification which is more especially necessary in the *Physician*, for his treating the *Febricula* with *Judgment* and *Success*; since, its *false* Appearances, as we observe, are often so *conspicuous* and *various*, notwithstanding

withstanding the *Fever* itself is very *obscure*.

If, indeed, we should ever be so happy, as to arrive at that Degree of Perfection in the Practice of Physic, as to be able, at once, to *discover* a *single* Mark in all Diseases, that should certainly determine the Disorder to be *this* or *that particular* Disease; it would very much lessen the Labour and Difficulty of our Profession: But as that is by no means the Case at present, and, perhaps, never may be; it behoves us not to neglect the being intimately acquainted with the *best* and most *accurate Descriptions* of Diseases given us by the *antient*, and *best* modern, Observers; in order to enable us to *distinguish* between one Disease and another, and the *Disease* and its *Symptoms*. And without a good Degree of this Knowledge, we cannot be *duly* qualified

qualified to practise Physic with any tolerable Success.

Those therefore, who are contented to rest only on their own *personal* Stock of Knowledge and Observation, without taking in the *Aid* of their Predecessors, will make but very little Progress in the Cure of Diseases ; although they may chance to have a good Share of Practice. Nay, we dare venture to affirm, that the *youngest* Physician, who is well skilled in the *Animal Oeconomy*, and has made himself *thoroughly acquainted* with the *best Histories* of Diseases, shall *immediately* set out to Practice, with much greater Success, than the *oldest* Practitioner, little acquainted with *those* Particulars, and trusting in his *own personal* Knowledge and Observation only.

It is a *vulgar*, and, indeed, a very *hurtful* Error, to imagine, that the
oldest

oldest Practitioner must needs *always* be the best, because he is the *oldest* : For as much as it is the *joint* Concurrence of the Knowledge of the *Animal Oeconomy*, and the *Histories* of Diseases, as delivered to us by our Predecessors, as well as those observed by ourselves ; which must qualify any of us for a *successful* Practice in the Cure of Diseases. But to proceed :

We shall now, in consequence of our Method, proceed to point out several Particulars which have *often* fallen within our *own* Observation and Practice, in the Cure of this *Febricula*, or *little* Fever ; with regard to its more *conspicuous*, though *casual* and *accidental*, Symptoms, *personating* other Distempers : And at the same Time shall shew, that *those* Symptoms, however *surprizing*, have disappeared by the *proper* Use of *diaphoretical* Remedies, Blisters, &c. in the Cure of this *Febricula*,

cula, or *little Fever* ; unless accompanied with some *latent* Disorder in some of the *Viscera* ; or where the *Functions* of any one of them have been very much *hurt*, or *destroyed* : As in *Schirrus's*, *Cancers*, &c. to which *particular* Regard must be had, while the Method for the *little Fever* by *Diaphoretics*, &c. ought still to be pursued.

We all know, that some Bodies shall be more liable to *particular* Diseases than others ; and that in different Persons, some Parts shall be more than ordinary weak, and therefore more liable to be affected than other Parts, in Diseases of all Kinds : Hence we often see, from one and the same Cause, *different Appearances* ; not so much belonging to the Disease, as owing to the *Diversity* of Bodies, and their various and different Dispositions. In order, therefore, to *distinguish* these and the like *false Appearances*, in any Disease,

from

from the Disease itself; it behoves us, as we have observed, that we be very ready and accurate in the *Descriptions* of *all* Diseases, and that we carry in our Memory the *inseparable* and constant *Marks* of *each* Distemper, necessarily required to be *present*, to denominate the *particular* Distemper; otherwise we shall ever be liable to be *misled* and *deceived*. By this *Rule* therefore we shall endeavour to proceed, with regard to the *many false* Appearances, which we have *remarked* in our own Practice *often* to accompany the *Febricula*, or *little continued* Fever; and which, we doubt not, may prove of Service in directing the *young* Physician, to the *true* Knowledge and *proper* Treatment of this obscure Distemper, and its more *conspicuous* Symptoms.

Now, we observe, that this *Febricula*, or *little Fever*, when *neglected*, or

improperly treated, shall very often be accompanied with a *Difficulty* in *Breathing* ; from whence dangerous *Deliquia*, or *Faintings* ; *Syncope*s, or entire Swoonings away, shall ensue : It therefore behoves us carefully to *distinguish* this *Difficulty* of Breathing, from that which is the *Consequence* of a Disease of the *Breast* and *Lungs*.

It is universally agreed, that the *Indication*, which is taken from the *Parts affected*, is always the *best* and *surest*. But in this *casual* Symptom of the *Febricula*, the Patients do not complain of their *Breast*. The Place where they *feel* their *Grief*, and on Account of which they *breathe*, with *Difficulty*, is under the *Diaphragm*, and about the *Region* of the *Stomach* and *Heart* : This Pain is accompanied with a *great Pressure* and *Straitness* in *Breathing*, and that only by *Intervals* ; though sometimes to such a Degree, as even
to

to take away the *Eye-Sight*, which is soon followed by an *entire Swooning away*: It is also sometimes attended with such *violent Spasms*, and *drawing together* of the Parts about the *Præcordia*, by *Fits*, that one would really fear the Patient would immediately expire; yet, in a little while, they recover again out of this Disorder, by the Use of moderate cordial Remedies, &c.

Now the *Intermissions*, and coming-on by *Fits*, of this *Difficulty of Breathing*, together with the Disorder of the *Parts affected*; plainly *distinguish* it from that *Difficulty of Breathing*, which is the *Consequence* of Diseases of the *Breast*. For, as Breathing is the *proper Office* of the *Breast* and *Lungs*, so, if *they* were *principally* affected, this *Difficulty of Breathing* would be *continual*: Because the *proper Function* of these Parts would be always more or

less affected, till the entire Solution of the Disease. Further, this Difficulty of Breathing attending the *Febricula*, may likewise be distinguished, in that it was not preceded by any violent Cough, Wheezing, pungent Pains, nor accompanied with an high and hard Pulse; with the like Affections proper to the disordered Breast and Lungs. So that the Difficulty of Breathing, accompanying this little Fever, as its casual Symptom only, may and ought to be immediately distinguished from the Diseases of the Breast and Lungs themselves; as necessary to lead to the curative Intentions.

And the particular Kind of Pulse, always present in the *Febricula*, which is small, quick, and unequal; the Languor, Anxiety, and Dispiritedness; the pale, though sometimes, indeed, various, Urine; the small Thirst, and Dryness of the Lips and Tongue; together

ther with the *Distinctions* beforementioned; do all plainly *demonstrate* the Distemper to be the true *Febricula*: And its yielding to the *proper* Practice for this *little* Fever by *diaphoretical* Remedies, promoting *insensible* Perspiration, &c. and Matters being constantly made *worse* and *exasperated* by *Bleeding* and *Purging*, are further Confirmations of the *Disease*, and its *Nature*.

We often observe, this *little* Fever shall be attended with irregular *Exacerbations*, or Heightnings of the Fever, *personating* Intermittents. And here we ought to be very cautious in *distinguishing*, lest we should be misled, to mistake the *Febricula* with these *Exacerbations*, or *Heightnings* of the Fever, for a *genuine* intermitting Fever; and with that View unwarily administer the *Bark*; which may be attended with very ill Consequences: Whereas

we find, that these irregular *Exacerbations* of the *Febricula* are most readily taken off by the Use of *Riverius's* Draughts, with *Sal. Absynth. & Sp. Sulph. per Camp. &c.* taken about once in eight Hours ; and giving the *diaphoretic* Remedies in the Intervals of these Draughts.

Nausea's, and *Inclinations* to vomit, often attend the *Febricula* ; which we ought carefully to *distinguish* from a *Fault* in the Stomach itself : For when *these* are Symptoms only of the *Febricula*, those Medicines which usually do good, where the Stomach is principally affected, will here avail nothing, but rather increase the Disorder.

These *Nausea's*, and *Inclinations* to vomit, when casual Symptoms of this *little* Fever, *suddenly intermit* ; and as *suddenly* return, without any *previous* Indisposition

Indisposition of the Stomach : Whereas, when the Stomach is *principally* affected, it is quite otherwise ; for then there is felt a *Pain* and *Weight* in the Stomach, *preceding* these *Nauseas*, and Inclinations to vomit ; and Humours are plentifully discharged, with Relief. But where they are *Symptoms* of the *Febricula*, there is only a *vain* Reaching with the *Nauseas*, and little or nothing discharged, and no Advantage acquired. These *Reachings* also are sometimes joined with a *craving* Appetite, instead of a *Loathing* ; the Patient, in the mean time, growing *languid* and *weak*, rather than *downright sick* ; the Pulse still continuing *quick*, *low*, and *unequal*. Now in these Cases, *Vomits*, *Purges*, and *Bleeding*, as well as all *stimulating* and *hot* Medicines, prove very hurtful. But we find these *Symptoms* readily yield to a *moderately cordial* and *diaphoretical* Practice, keep-

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ing *quiet*, and using *Broths*, and Diet of *easy Digestion*.

A *Looseness* shall often be a casual *Symptom* of the *Febricula*, which is thus distinguished from a common *Diarrhœa*: In this *Looseness* the *Stools* are not in great *Quantities*, though more than in *Proportion* to the *Nourishment* taken in; nor are they generally *so loose*; and the Patient becomes rather *languid*, than downright *sick*. The *Pulse*, again, under this Circumstance, is always *small*, *quick*, and *unequal*; accompanied with a *Dryness* of the *Mouth* and *Lips*; the *Tongue* is *white*, yet sometimes *redder* than ordinary; the *Urine* *various*, often of an *obscure*, *pale* Colour, though sometimes *high* coloured, and very *turbid*; yet the *Thirst* but *moderate*; and drinking *much* is rather *offensive* than desirable. So that the *Heat* and *Thirst*, not being such as usually attends this *high-coloured*
and

and *turbid* Urine, together with the Difference in the *Kind* of *Pulse* always attending, give us the *certain* Mark of this *Febricula*.

Now if this *little Fever* be neglected, and its more *conspicuous* Symptoms, (I mean the *Looseness*, the *high-coloured*, and *turbid* Urine) should mislead the Physician; he will have but little Success in the Cure: For the *Looseness*, the *high-coloured* and *turbid* Urine, are now only the *casual* Symptoms of the *Febricula*, and ought to be treated with moderate *diaphoretical* Remedies. And in these Cases, we constantly observe, that *Astringents*, especially *strong* ones, and the Medicines *commonly* prescribed for the Cure of a *Diarrhæa*, increase the Disorder: And here it too often happens, that the Physician is misled, to the Neglect of this *little obscure* Fever, by the *Looseness*, and its
other

other *casual* Symptoms, because more *manifest* and *conspicuous*.

HIPPOCRATES gives us an *Instance* of this Kind, which at once demonstrates the *Obscurity* of this Distemper, and the *Justness* of our Method of Cure. The Case was this: “ About
 “ the *Autumnal* Equinox, says HIPPO-
 “ CRATES, the Son of ERATALAUS
 “ was taken ill of a *Dysentery*, with
 “ a *Fever*: Neither the sick Person,
 “ nor any about him, for the first *six*
 “ Days, observed this *little* Fever, it
 “ was so *low* and *obscure*; yet there
 “ was a great *Pulsation* of the Tem-
 “ ples, or *temporal Arteries*, and the
 “ Tongue was *white*, and his *Drought*
 “ was moderate, and he without Sleep.
 “ Though the Case continued above
 “ *forty* Days, yet his *Heat* and his
 “ Tongue, and his *Thirst*, persevered
 “ in the mentioned State, and he did
 “ not

“ *not sweat* †.” BELLINI also observes, that this *little Fever decreases without Sweating* ; and that the *Pulse* is always *low, quick, and unequal*.

In the Case related by HIPPOCRATES, we observe, the *obscure Fever* was attended with the *Bloody Flux*. This was *obvious*, while the *principal Disease* was very *latent*, and scarcely to be discerned, without the strictest Attention. And *frequent Instances* of this Kind we meet with in our Practice.

This *Febricula*, or *little Fever*, is very often attended with an *Hæmorrhage* or *Bleeding*, from some of the Vessels, as its *casual Symptom* ; and here, if *strongly styptical*, and *astringent Medicines* are administered, with a View to stop this *Hæmorrhage*, they will *constantly increase* the Disorder. Whereas the *proper Use* of *diaphoretical Remedies*,

† Lib. vii. Epidem.

Remedies, promoting only *insensible Perspiration*, with a small Portion of *Subastringents* mixed with those Remedies, is the Method always found most effectual ; by taking off the Fever itself, and its more *conspicuous* and *casual* Symptom, the *Hæmorrhage*, at the same Time.

An *Hæmorrhage*, when a *casual* Symptom of a *Fever*, is a *Bursting* of the Vessels from the *increased Circulation*, and the acquired *Thickness* of the Blood : So that all *strongly styptical* and *astringent* Medicines constantly increase this *Hæmorrhage*, by heightening the *Fever*, and adding to the *Thickness* of the Blood. And in all *Hæmorrhages* whatsoever, attending Fevers as their *casual* Symptoms, if we may be allowed the *Comparison*, the *Fever* acts as the *Hammer*, and the *Lentor* as the *Wedge*. For which Reason our *principal* Regard must always be to the
Fever

Fever itself, rather than to its *casual*, though very *terrible*, Symptom, the *Hæmorrhage*. In these *Hæmorrhages* the *Peruvian Bark*, properly administered, often proves successful.

The *Febricula*, in some measure, shall often put on the Appearances of other Fevers, so as to imitate the *Quotidian*, *Tertian*, and *Quartan* Fever, with regard to the *Returns*, very exactly. It shall also, sometimes, invade the Patient without any *Order*, as twice every Day; and sometimes three or four Times a Day; especially after the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth Day; bringing with it *Chillinesses*, accompanied with a little *Heat*: But after these *Chillinesses* the *Heat* increases, with much *Uneasiness* about the *Præcordia* or *Midriff*, by Fits; which may be considered as one of the *distinguishing Marks* of the *Febricula*.

Now,

Now, in these *Exacerbations*, when *the Fever is at the Height*, we sometimes find the *Pulse high and hard*; but, in the *Declension*, the *Pulse* returns to that, which is *quick, small, and unequal*, as at the first; the true *pathognomonic Sign* of the *Febricula*. And we further observe, that those, who are more than ordinary troubled with *Heat* and *Thirst* in the *Exacerbations* or *Heightenings* of the *Fever*; are most liable to have *greater Anxiety* coming on by *Intervals*. And when the *Pulse* does not, in the *Beginning*, or *Increase* of the *Fever*, plainly point out to us the *Febricula*; yet, in the *Declension*, the particular *small, quick, and unequal Pulse*, always shews itself: This will ever confirm the *Disease* to be the true *Febricula*, and will direct us to the *proper Practice* for *Cure*.

We shall always find our *diligent*
and *accurate Attention* to the *Pulse*,
of

of the utmost Consequence in forming a Judgment in this Disease. For though there may be *several* and very *different* Symptoms, on Account of the *different* Temperature and Constitution of the Body affected; yet the *Pulse*, and *Urine*, but more especially the *Pulse*, will *perpetually direct* and *confirm* our Judgment in the Case.

We shall farther shew from the *Pulse*, *Urine*, and *other Marks*, agreeing with the *Nature* of this *little low Fever*; by what Means we may *distinguish* it from the *true Quotidian*, *Tertian*, and *Quartan*, as well as *other Fevers*, which this *Febricula* so often *personates* in *some Particulars*.

The *Febricula*, then, we observe, will often *imitate Intermittents*, whether *Quotidian*, *Tertian*, or *Quartan*: But this chiefly in regard to the *Days* of the *Accession* of the Fever; and only

in *few other Particulars* of those Fevers; which ought to be carefully remarked: Because the *Febricula* will never yield to the *proper Treatment* of those *Intermittents*, when *genuine*. And, as GALEN well observes, *Intermittent Fevers* are not to be *distinguished* and *judged of*, merely according to the *Days* of their *Accession*; but according to *all their proper Signs* taken together. We are, therefore, to bear in *our Minds*, and *compare*, the *proper and constant Marks* of each particular Fever; in order to *distinguish the one from the other*, and to *discover the true Nature* of each.

Now, when we find the *Pulse* to be *low, quick, and unequal*; *Præter Febris Rationem*; the *Urine* *crude and pale*, though sometimes, indeed, *higher coloured and turbid*; a *Languor* and *Dispiritedness* accompanying: We have then the *true characteristic Marks* of
the

the *Febricula*. The *Pulse* too, even in the Height of the Fever, shall *sometimes* be *low*, *quick*, and *unequal* ; but it is always so in the *Decline*.

Having thus *distinguished*, on the Head, and discovered this *little Fever*, we are readily directed to the *proper Administration* of *diaphoretical Remedies*, and RIVERIUS's Draughts, with *Sal. Abs.* &c. By which Medicines, with the Application of *Blisters* ; the keeping *quiet* ; using a due Regimen, &c. we shall be able, in a few Days, to perform the Cure. Whereas, should we be *misled* by those *false Appearances* of the *Quotidian*, *Tertian*, or *Quartan Fever* ; we shall not only fail in performing the Cure, but greatly injure the Patient, and the Repute of Physic at the same Time.

Here we ought to be particularly cautious, how we give the *Bark*, on

Account of these *false Appearances*, or *Exacerbations* of the Fever. The true Method is, as suggested above, to administer RIVERIUS's *saline Draughts*, about once in *eight Hours*, continuing the gentle *diaphoretical Practice* in the intermediate Hours of taking *those Draughts*. And though it may so happen, that the *Febricula* may *sometimes* turn to a true *Intermittent*; yet, before we venture to give the *Bark*, we must be sure there is a *fair Intermiſſion*; and that the *Paroxiſms* do return at *regular, ſtated Times*, and that the *Fits* go perfectly off by *Sweating*: As also, that the *Pulſe* remains *natural* during the *Intermiſſion*; and that there be a true *laudible* and *lateritious Sediment* in the *Urine* at the ſame Time. If theſe *Precautions* are not *obſerved*, the giving the *Bark* in the *Febricula*, where it aſſumes the Appearance of *Intermittents*, may be attended with very bad *Conſequences*.

Hence,

Hence we see, how necessary it is, rightly to *distinguish* the *proper* Signs and Marks of this *little Fever*; and carefully to recollect the constant and *inseperable* Appearances of the *several* Disorders which this *Febricula* may at Times *personate*: That we may be directed to a *successful* Practice, and Method of treating this *Febricula*.

When this *Febricula* imitates a *common, continual* Fever, which it shall oftentimes do, it is *distinguishable* by being *more mild*, and with *less Thirst* and *Restlessness*: Or if the *Inquietude* happens to be *greater* or *more intense* than ordinary, yet this *greater Anxiety* and *Inquietude* comes on by *Intervals* only, joined with a *Pain* and *Oppression* about the *Præcordia*, or Parts about the Heart; the *Pulse*, in the mean time, is *low, quick, and unequal*. And though the Urine be *crude, turbid, and various*; yet the *Desire of Drink*, not being adequate to the Signs of

Crudity in the Urine, together with the other Symptoms, plainly demonstrate the Disorder to be the true *Febricula*. And all Evacuations, (except by moderate, *diaphoretical* Medicines, promoting *insensible* Perspiration, and *Blisters*) prove hurtful; unless a *gentle Emetic* be indicated in the Beginning, to clear the *Primæ Viæ*, or a small Dose of Rhubarb be given, if the Fever continues long; returning again, to the *proper* Diaphoretical Practice. And it is generally observed, that all Medicines which *heat* much, *irritate* and *increase* the Disorder; and that *Bleeding*, and *strong Purgings*, bring on *Syncope's* and *Death*.

We oftentimes observe, that the *Febricula* shall imitate a *Pleurisy*, by great *Pains* in the *Side*, and about the *Ribs*. But by a *diligent Examination*, we shall soon find, that *those Pains*, tho' sometimes *very sharp*, do not agree with

with the *Pleurisy*; any more than the *Pulse*, which is here *low, quick, and unequal*: And the Pains, though *violent*, come by *Intervals* only; there being little or no *Cough* attending, or by *Fits* only. It is farther observable, there is *little or no Thirst*. The *Breathing* too is without *acute Pain*: Rather an *Oppression* is felt in Breathing; except which, it is not otherwise much altered. Now, in this Case, *Bleeding* would greatly endanger the Patient; this being a Distemper which by no means admits of that Evacuation, as in a *Pleurisy*; but we find it readily yields to the gentle *volatile and diaphoretical Practice, Blisters, and Pulv. Lap. Contr. Sperm. Cet. &c.*

We sometimes meet with the *Febri-cula*, under the *Appearance* of an *Atrophy*, or *universal Consumption*, and *Hectic Fever*. And here, we must carefully recollect the *Antecedents*, and

Symptoms accompanying an *Atrophy*; having, at the same time, a particular Regard to the *two distinguishing Marks* of the *Febricula*, that is, the *Pulse* and *Urine*; but more especially the *Pulse*. And if, besides, the Patient feels an *Uneasiness ad Præcordia*, that is, in the Parts about the Heart, by *Intervals*; and has an *universal Lassitude* or *Weariness*, with *great Anxiety*, and *Dispiritedness*, by *Fits*; and if, with these Symptoms, the *Pulse* is *constantly low, quick, and unequal*; and the *Urine limpid and pale*: You have then *the true Marks* of the *Febricula*, and may properly proceed to the Use of gentle cordial and *diaphoretical Remedies*, *Blisters*, *nourishing Broths*, and Food of *easy Digestion*; at the same time keeping as *quiet* as may be. For, should we *mistake* this Disorder, and treat it as an *Hectic*, or *universal Atrophy*; with too much *Dilution*, and *refrigerating Medicines*; we should infallibly *injure*

jure the Patient, and greatly protract the Cure.

A *Loss of Memory*, and a *Delirium*, are often found to attend the *Febricula*. And here, we must carefully *distinguish* in what Manner this *Loss of Memory* and *Delirium* differ from *those Affections* which are the *Consequence* of other *Fevers*; and how far *these Symptoms* agree with the *Febricula*. Now, in this *little Fever*, we observe, they always happen on the *least Commotion*; and *suddenly* intermit: Being attended with great *Anxiety* and *Dispiritedness*; the *Heat* and *Thirst* in the mean Time but *little*. Whereas, other *Deliria* are the *Consequence* only of *acute Fevers*, and the *Pulse* is very *hard*; and, as Physicians term it, *serratilis*: Contrary to which, in the *Febricula*, it is always *low*, *quick*, and *unequal*; and the *Loss of Memory*, and *Delirium*, is wont to come by *Intervals* only. In this
Case,

Case, the Disorder readily yields to the Practice *proper* to the *Febricula*.

We often find, that the *Febricula*, or *little, low, continued Fever*, shall personate a very violent *Fit of the Cholic*: But, by enquiring diligently into the *State* of the Patient, for some Days preceding this *seeming Cholic*; and by examining carefully the *Pulse, Tongue, and Urine*; we may readily discover the *Febricula*. And whereas *Vomiting* of much *Phlegm, Choler, and other Humours*, often attend *true Cholicks*; yet, when only a *casual Symptom* of the *Febricula*, it is quite otherwise; the Patient then having only *Nausea's, and vain Reachings, voiding little or no Humours*. Wherefore, if we find the *Pulse, Tongue, Urine, &c. agreeing* with the *Febricula*; instead of *Bleeding, Vomiting, Purging, and giving strong Glysters*, we are readily directed to the above *Practice*, peculiar to this *little Fever*.

Fever. Besides, by injecting *emollient Glysters* often, by way of *Fotus* to the Bowels, which greatly help the *internal Perspiration*; and by constantly applying *warm Cloths*, or *Bladders with warm Water*, often renewed, to the *external Parts*, where the *Pain* is most perceived; we shall find, those *Cholic-like Symptoms* readily give Way. Whereas, on the contrary, if the Case be mistaken for a *true Cholic*, and *Bleeding, strong Glysters, Purges, &c.* be administered, it will sometimes bring on *Death*, in a *surprizingly sudden Manner*.

Every Woman, *almost*, has *Monthly Discharges*, which continue to return *orderly*, while she continues in *Health*; but, when seized with this *Febricula*, these *Evacuations* cease; and then this *Stoppage* is *too often* assigned as the *Cause* of her Disorder: Yet, by endeavouring to cure her, by *forcing* this
Eva-

Evacuation, great *Mischief* is often done; without being able to bring on the intended *Evacuation*. The Case likewise is the same in *other Fevers*. For, at such Times, there is a *general Defect* in the *Secretions*, on Account of the *Lentor* induced into the Blood; which causes an *Unaptness* in all the *Juices* for being secreted, because of their *acquired Thickness*: So that *this Stoppage* is really a mere *Symptom* and *Effect* of the *Fever*, the *principal Disease*. And indeed, we often find *Diseases*, to be *Symptoms* to one another; when either of them is an *essential Disease*. And here, we observe, the *Fever*, and the *Stoppage*, its *Symptom*, have one and the same *common Cause*; neither of them requiring an *opposite*, or *contradictory Way* of curing. Hence, we see, how necessary it is, always, accurately to *discover the Disease*, and its *Symptom*.

It

It is indeed proper to observe, that in those Fevers which are accompanied with *this Stoppage*, where there is a *Plenitude*, *Bleeding* will be *absolutely necessary*: But it is quite otherwise with regard to the *Febricula*; in which Disorder it is *exceeding dangerous*, because of the present great *Defect* of *Animal Spirits*, the *universal Flaccidity* of all the Fibres of the Body, and that there is no *abounding* in the Quantity of Blood.

Married Women, who are *weak* and *tender*, have *often* the *Febricula*, attended with the *casual* Symptoms of a *Tension* of the Belly, together with a *Stoppage* of their *Monthly Evacuations*. They have also, at the same time, *Nauseas* and *vain Reachings* attendant, and are very *low-spirited*, and *subject to faint*: Hence they *falsly* imagine themselves breeding. But, by carefully attending to HIPPOCRATES's Aphorism,

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(*Si Mulieri purgationes non prodeant, neque Horrore neque Febre succedente, liborum vero Fastidia ei accedant, Gravidam esse existimato*^h, and by diligently examining the *Nature* of this *Tension*, and the *Bigness* of the *Belly*, which is generally greater than agrees with *the Time* they usually reckon from ; and is *harder*, and more *painful* than ordinary, especially towards *Evenings*: And further, by strictly observing the *Pulse*, and *Dryness* of the *Mouth* and *Tongue*, &c. we shall be readily directed to the true *Nature* of the Disorder ; and of Course to the *proper Practice* for the *Febricula*: And to *this Practice*, these Symptoms readily yield. For, as soon as *insensible Perspiration* is promoted, there is a *Remission* of all *these Symptoms*; and by persisting a few Days in *this Practice*, Health generally returns; together with the *natural Evacuation*, in its due Time, in a regular Manner. Where-

as,

^h Hip. Aph. 61. S. 5.

as, all *other* Methods and Medicines only exasperate and multiply these Symptoms, and prolong the Cure; especially *Bleeding* and *Purging*.

We also observe, that Women of *weak* and *tender* Constitutions, who are at all Times very subject to *this little Fever*, shall be visited with it, while they are *breeding*; accompanied with very *surprizing* Symptoms, *personating* other Diseases. And to the Neglect of *this little Fever*, at this Time, a Multitude of *Miscarriages* are entirely owing.

And, indeed, *all Diseases* of Women with *Child*, which are not *cognate* to, or do not arise from, the *Pregnancy* itself, are *extremely dangerous* if neglected, and not remedied before they are brought to bed: Of which HIPPOCRATES has long since forewarned us, and which is too often verified
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even to this Day. *Si Mulier*, says HIPPOCRATES, *Utero gestans Morbum habuerit non cognatum, in Puerperii Purgatione, perit* §.

Hence, we see, how necessary it is to use all possible Means to *prevent* a Miscarriage, where Women with Child have the *Febricula*, or *little Fever*; because this *little Fever* has no *Affinity* with, and is not *owing* to the *Pregnancy* itself. *Morbos quos secum attulit Pregnatio, Partus plerumque adimit; ii vero, qui nullam habent cum Pregnatione Cognationem, post Partum, graviores solent fieri.*

Now, if these *weak Women* do *chance* to go their *full Time*, and this *little Fever* be *neglected*, or not *properly* treated, we *constantly* observe, that in bringing forth their Children, they have more *lingering* and *painful Labours*;

§ Lib. de Natura Pueror.

bours ; and afterwards, though they be ever so *safely* delivered, this *little* Fever, as well as *others*, grows *worse* ; and many *dangerous* Symptoms soon come on : *Mulieres quæ Abortum faciunt aut pariunt, dum Febre continuâ afficiuntur, maximo Vitæ periculo laborant.* HIPPOC.

We also observe, that if *weak* Women, in *Child-bed*, having this *Febri-cula*, or *little* Fever, do chance to rise out of their Beds *too soon*, they shall be *presently* seized with great *Faintness* and *Lowness* of Spirits. And it is by no Means an *uncommon* Case, for these *weakly* Women, neglecting this *little* Fever, and *thus* quitting their Beds, to die *surprizingly* on a *sudden*, in the *early* Days of their *Child-bed*. And, even those who chance to escape with their Lives, do *frequently* fall into *various* and very *dangerous* Disorders, and too often are seized with a

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Kind

Kind of MADNESS, by Reason of this *Rashness* and Neglect, and by *thus* checking the *Lochia* and *Perspiration*, in this *vitiated* State of the Blood, and Animal Spirits; whereas, by keeping *quiet* in Bed, and using the *proper* Practice for the *Febricula*, with the Addition of *Sperma Ceti*, *Lap. Contrayerv.* *Croc.* &c. this *little* Fever may be removed, the *Lochia* duly *brought on* and *encouraged*, and these *Misfortunes* prevented. And indeed, the *least* *Error* of weakly Women, during the Time of *Child-bed*, too often proves fatal.

Now, tho' at this *particular* Time, our *principal* Aim ought always to be directed to the due *Regulation* of the *Lochia*, and the promoting of *Perspiration*, to which the *proper* Practice for the *Febricula* eminently leads: Nevertheless, many and great Difficulties surround us, in this dangerous and
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complicated Situation of Affairs, which always exact our *most diligent Care*; not only with regard to the *Disorders* themselves, at this Time attending these *weakly* Women, but also, to the too often *pernicious* Advice of their more *robust* Visitants; who are mighty apt to imagine, that the confining these *weak* Women to their Beds, must needs tend to weaken them more: They therefore, *officiously*, advise their getting out of their Beds, and sitting up; assuring them, they will by that Means, gather Strength: But this *dangerous Rashness*, on the contrary, always *increases* their Disorder; and we have known but too many, who, by getting out of their Beds, and sitting up *too soon*, after their Deliveries, have died *suddenly* of this *neglected little* Fever.

Others again, by this precipitate and rash Course, have brought on

most *dreadful* Symptoms, attended with MILIARY *Eruptions*, &c. no otherwise to be removed, than by the *proper* Practice for the *Febricula*.

To which we may farther add, that many *weak* Women, labouring with Child, who were well before, have been observed to be *immediately* seized with the *Febricula*, soon after Delivery: Especially, if the Labour has been more *than ordinary* painful and laborious; occasioned by the then *viti-ated* State of the Blood, and the great *Expence of Spirits* during the Labour. Therefore, where we can prevail, we are always to be very cautious, how we suffer these *weak* Women, or those who have had *difficult* Labours, to get up *too soon*. On the contrary, we ought rather to keep them *constantly* in Bed, for the Space of *ten or twelve* Days from the Labour; following the *proper* Practice
for

for the *Febricula*, with the Addition of *Sperma Ceti*, &c. diligently keeping up a gentle *Perspiration*, and a due and regular *Discharge* of the *Lochia*.

Where lying-in Women, by giving into the above *hasty Practice*, have brought on this *Febricula*, together with a *Diminution* or *Stoppage* of the *Lochia*, the Consequences of which are *sudden Deliriums*: It is observed, that if *copious Bleeding* be administered, or *Blisters* are applied to these *weak Women* at this Time (which we fear is too often the Case) with a View to this *particular surprizing Symptom*, the *Delirium*, it generally proves fatal.

Whereas, keeping these *Women quiet in Bed*, and treating them in the *Method* already prescribed (adding of *Sal. Succin.* as well as *Sperm. Cet.* to the

diaphoretical Powders) and at the same Time frequently using proper *Fotus's* to the Parts, and throwing up *emollient Glysters* (which act as *suck* on the *Bowels* and *Uterus*) not only brings on a *proper Flow* of the *Lochia*, but happily carries off the *Delirium*. And these *weak Women* thus *affected*, and so treated, often recover, who perhaps would otherwise become *MAD-DISH* in the End. And, to speak ingenuously, this Method is the *only one* we have ever found *available*, in these very *perilous Cases*. For tho' *Blisters* are very serviceable in *other Cases* of the *Febricula*; yet, in lying-in Women, in the *early Days* after Delivery, they often prove of the *worst Consequence*, by *inflaming* the *Womb*, yet very *tender*, and abounding with *vitiated Blood* and *Humours*, bringing on *Mortifications* and *Death*. For which Reason, we cannot too earnestly caution the *young Practitioner* against the Use

Use of *Blisters*, in *all* Disorders of *Puerperal* Women, in the *very early Days* of their *Lying-in*; while the *Vessels* of the *Womb* are thus full, and the *Parts* from whence the *Placenta* was lately separated, so *very tender*, and liable to be injured by the *inflaming caustic Salts* of the *Cantharides*. We have indeed observed, not without great Concern, many *fatal Instances* attending the Application of *Blisters* at this Time.

It is not only in *Lying-in* Cases, attended with the *Febricula*, that *MADNESS* is a Consequence of the Neglect, or ill Treatment of this *little Fever*; for in other Persons, where this *little Fever* has been *long* neglected, it too often terminates in a Madness. And indeed of late Years, this *Species* of Madness has been more than ordinary frequent. It is also well worth observing, since *Experience* confirms the

Fact, that this *Sort* of Madness, which follows a *long* neglected *Febricula*; will by no Means yield to the *common* Method, for the Cure of Madness: Because great Evacuations, as *Purging*, *Vomiting*, and especially *Bleeding*, always heightens the Disease, and soon either destroys the Patients, or renders them *Mopish* all their Lives after.

This is perfectly consonant, with what SYDENHAM observes, who tells us that the *Madness* which follows *Fevers*, is not to be treated as *other Sorts* of *Madness*, which are not preceded by *Fevers*: And that, tho' in this *last* Sort of *Madness*, brisk Evacuations may be necessary, yet he thinks, the *strengthening* of the *Brain* and *Animal Spirits* are by no Means to be neglected.

Wherefore, in that *Sort* of Madness which follows the *long* neglected *Febricula*,

bricula, as was just now observed, we must carefully avoid *all Evacuations*, especially *Bleeding*; and our principal View must be to the Practice for the *Febricula* itself: Tho' we may sometimes, venture to take away an *Ounce* or *two* of *Blood*; in order to know the better how it differs from its *natural State*, and to direct our Proceedings in the Management of the Cure: For till the *Blood* comes to its *natural State*, so as rightly to bring on the *natural Secretions*, we cannot hope for the Return of Health.

But *large Evacuations*, especially *Bleeding*, as they undoubtedly weaken the *Blood*; necessarily hinder the *natural Secretions*, and by that Means continue the Disease. A good Reason why they should be avoided.

In these *Maniacal Cases*, following a long neglected *Febricula*, the *Crassamentum*,

mentum and *Serum* of the Blood sometimes appears like *curdled Milk*; in which Case, besides the Practice proper for the *Febricula*, we shall find the Administration of the Extract of the *Peruvian Bark*, with a few Grains of *Flores Martiales* in each Dose, very effectual in taking off this Sort of *Lentor* in the Blood: It has, indeed, proved an *effectual* Remedy in this Kind of Madness.

It may seem somewhat strange, that these *weakly* Persons, becoming *Maniacal* after a long Continuance of the *Febricula*, should at Times, shew so great Strength, as scarcely to be manageable by two or three Persons; but we see the like happens, in the Fits of very *weakly* Women, in *hysteric* Disorders; which may possibly be owing, in both Cases, to the *very irregular* and *confused Perturbations* of the *Animal Spirits*, inordinately rushing, at those Times,

Times, into the Muscles of the Body, and thus strangely affecting them. But whatever be *the Reason* of their great Strength, at certain Times, 'tis true in *Fact*, that Persons becoming *Maniacal*, after a long neglected *Febricula*, shall sometimes, in their *frantic* Fits, put forth abundance of Strength; tho' in the general, we find them rather *weak, melancholy, and desponding*, than thus *strong and frantick*.

We shall *often* find, that the *Febricula* begins with a little *Rigor*, returning every *third* Day, accompanied with *great Anxiety*, and very *acute* and *troublesome Pains* all over the Body; yet the *Pulse*, the *characteristic Mark* of this *little Fever*, shall be *small, quick, and unequal*, even when the Disorder is at the Height: And with these *violent Pains* there shall be a *Pressure*, and *Straightness ad Præcordia*, with a *Difficulty of Breathing*. And when this

Disorder

Disorder continues for some Days, it is *not unusual* for the Patients to be taken with a little *Light-headedness*, followed by a *profound Dozing*; so that they shall even lie, seemingly, without *Sense* or *Motion*: And these Symptoms shall come on at every *Accession* of the Fever, and soon go off again, leaving behind a Sort of *Stupor*. Now in these Cases, by observing strictly the *Kind of Pulse*, we have often been directed to the *proper diaphoretical* Practice for this *little Fever*: And by the Application of *Blisters*, together with the Use of RIVERIUS's *saline Draughts*, a little *before* the *Accession* of the Fit, we have happily found these several Appearances readily give way, and the Patients recover.

This *Febricula* shall also *often personate Tertian Fevers* very exactly, as to the *Day of Accession*; and shall be accompanied with *various* and *frequent*
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convulsive Motions, at the *Return* of every *Exacerbation*, or Heightening of the Fever. Now here, the *Kind* of *Pulse* always attending the *Febricula*, readily directs us to the Practice recommended above: I mean, the Medicines promoting *insensible* Perspiration; the applying *Blisters*, and the Use of RIVERIUS's *saline* Draughts, &c. and by continuing this Practice a few Days, the *Symptoms* abate, and the Patient usually recovers.

We sometimes observe the *Febricula* to take the *Type* of a *Quartan*, as to the *Days* of its *Accession*, but no otherwise; for the *Horror*, *Heat*, and *high* *Pulse* are never present: But even in the *Increase*, and *State* of the Fever, the *Pulse* shall be all along *small*, *quick*, and *unequal*; keeping also its same *Tenor* even in the *Remissions*; the true *distinctive* Mark of the *Febricula*. But, in the *Accession* of the Fever, the
Anxiety,

Anxiety, and *Oppression ad Præcordia*, with a *Difficulty* of Breathing, (other *proper* Marks of the *Febricula*) are observed to be greatest. Now, should the Patient be treated after the *Manner* of a *Quartan*, by Reason of the *Days* of the Accession of the Disorder, it would prove of very *bad* Consequence. We are therefore, at no Rate, to take our *Indications* from the *Accession* of the Disorder every *fourth* Day, while the other *proper* Marks of a *Quartan* are absent; but, by a diligent Examination of the *Pulse*, &c. we are readily directed to the *proper* Practice for the *Febricula*. And should we treat the Patient otherwise than is here directed, for the Cure of *this Disorder*, we should certainly *protract* the Disease for many Months, and the Patient, perhaps, be *lost* in the End.

In the *Spring* Time, we often observe the *Febricula* taking the Type
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of a *Tertian Intermittent*, with regard to the *Days*; and by its *Continuance*, or *ill Treatment*, altering the *Exacerbations*, or *Heightnings* of the *Fever*, every *Day*. And we sometimes meet with *daily Exacerbations*, beginning with a *little Chilliness*; which, at *Times*, shall be *very short*; but, at other *Times*, shall last *some Hours*, and be succeeded by a *troublesome Heat* coming all over the *Body*: At the *Height* of which, the *Thirst* shall be *pretty great*, with a *various Urine*, and the *Patient* be subject to *faint* away on the *least Motion*; the *Pulse*, in the *Beginning*, shall be *quick, low, and unequal*; in the *Height* or *Vigour*, it shall be *higher and harder*; but soon returning again, to be *small, quick, and unequal*; the true *Index* of the *Febricula*.

Some shall again, at *Times*, be afflicted with very *acute Pains* in the *Stomach* and *Bowels*; with *vain Reachings*,

ings, voiding but little ; they shall, moreover, have great *Oppression ad Præcordia*, and a *Difficulty* in Breathing, but by *Intervals* only : From whence, together with the *Kind* of Pulse, we are *naturally* directed to the *proper* Practice for the *Febricula* : To which all these Symptoms readily give way.

And, whenever we meet with *Exacerbations*, or *Heightnings* of the Fever, accompanying this *Febricula*, whether *regular* and *stated*, or *irregular* and *uncertain* ; we *constantly* find RIVERIUS's Draughts, with *Sal. Absynth.* given a *little* before the Accession, when *regular*, and about once in eight Hours when *irregular* (pursuing the *proper diaphoretical* Practice in the intermediate Hours) the most *effectual* Way of treating this *little continued* Fever, accompanied with these *Exacerbations*.

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We shall *oftentimes* meet with *cancerous* Disorders, both *latent* and *manifest* ; attended with a little *symptomatical* Fever ; and *sometimes* with the *true Febricula* ; And, in these Cases, whatever Means, or Medicines, are made Use of, little or no Benefit can be expected from them, while the *Fever*, which *associates* with them, is neglected. And indeed, the not observing or disregarding the *particular Fever* accompanying these Disorders, is one main Reason, why the Patients receive so little Benefit from the usual Means and Medicines administered for their Relief.

But the Reason, why we are not able to effect a perfect Cure of the *true* and *manifest Cancer*, is, I apprehend, because we are not yet arrived to a *sufficient* Knowledge in the *Animal Oeconomy* ; particularly that Part relating to the *Secretions* : Or else, that a *true* and

I *manifest*

manifest Cancer is really, in its *own Nature*, incurable. For where the true *History* of a Disease is *exactly* known, and a right Method of Cure cannot be deduced; it must be, either, because the *Animal Oeconomy* is not *sufficiently* understood, so as to give us the *true Nature* of the Disease, or, that the *Disease* itself is, in its *own Nature*, *incurable*.

To enumerate all the *Variety* of *false* Appearances to be met with in the *Febricula*, would be in a Manner endless, as well as *unnecessary*, seeing we have so clearly given the *proper Symptoms* belonging to the *Febricula*; and have as plainly shewn how to *distinguish* its *false* Appearances; and have moreover given so *many repeated* Instances, of Cases *thus* complicated, which have all yielded to the *direct* Practice for the *Febricula* itself; we therefore think the *young Physician* cannot but be sufficient-
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ly cautioned, and directed to the *proper* Management of this *little Fever*; be the *false* Appearances attending it, ever so *various* and *complicated*.

It will be observed, that we have all along *expresly* cautioned the *young Physician* against *Bleeding* and *Purging*, in the Course of this *Febricula*; as being *contrary* to the *Nature* of this Distemper; more especially *Bleeding*, which has been generally found to be *very hurtful*, and often *fatal* in this Disease. Yet, as CELSUS well observes, *Vix ulla perpetua Præcepta Medicinalis Ars recipit*; so, it may happen, in the Course of this *little Fever*, that *Purging* and *Bleeding*, *judiciously* administered, may sometimes prove of Service. For we find, that when this *little Fever* has continued *long*, the giving a little *Rhubarb*, and returning afterwards to the *proper* Practice for the Fever, much facilitates the Cure. So likewise, when any of the *Viscera* are *greatly* disordered, or the *Febricula* has for its *Concomitant*,

any Symptom *indicating* Bleeding, it may *sometimes* be attempted in *small Quantities*, with Relief. But *strong Purges*, and *large Bleedings* especially; we have *always* observed, to be altogether *contrary* to the *Nature* of this *little Fever*, and very *fatal* in their Consequences.

Now, as we have remarked above, that a little *Sperm. Cet.* mixed with *Volatile Salts* and *Lap. Contrayerv.* &c. is very efficacious in the Cure of *all Inflammations*; so here, with regard to any *accidental Inflammation*, accompanying this *little Fever*, giving *doubtful* Indications for *Bleeding*; we should rather advise the Use of the above *mentioned* Powders: As what we have often experienced in this *Febricula*, to be the *safest* and *most effectual Method* of treating these *accidental Symptoms*; without running the *great Hazard* of taking away Blood: Especially after the *careless* Manner in which that Operation is too often performed.

But,

But, though we are well assured, from *long Experience*, that taking away Blood is *contrary* to the *Nature* of the *Febricula*, and extremely hazardous ; yet, when it takes its Rise from the *injured Viscera*, or happens to be attended with some *casual* and *accidental* Symptoms, *indicating* Bleeding, whereby *Disputes* in *Consultations* may unhappily arise, (some very much urging *the Necessity* of Bleeding ; and others *fearing*, or altogether *disapproving* it, where this *little Fever* is observed) in these Cases, I say, that *Contentions* may be avoided, and that the Patient may have all *possible* Relief, without running any *Risque* of *Injury* ; we beg Leave to refer the Reader to our ⁱ Rule for the *safe* administering of *Bleeding* in all *doubtful* Indications ; as it stands published in our late *Compendium*, of *Midwifry*, *Women's*, and *Children's* Diseases : Where we are taught, in what Manner to make the Experiment, with-

ⁱ Art. Obstetric. &c. Compend.

without injuring the *weak* Patient, and with a *Possibility* of Relief.

We have *experienced* the *Safety* of our Rule, in many and *repeated* Instances, for a long Course of Years. And the Rule itself is so *plain* and *rational*, that we make no Doubt, but every judicious Physician will readily allow the great Expediency of this Practice, in *all doubtful* Indications.

For ourselves, we are fully convinced, that if this *Rule*, in *doubtful* Indications, was more generally practised, it would prove the *saving* of *many* Lives; not only of Persons labouring under this *little* Fever, but in every *other* Case, where the Patient is very *weak*, and the *Indication* for taking away Blood *disputable*.

Indeed, to bleed in such Manner, as that the *Strength* of the Sick be not *impaired* by it, is a *very excellent Caution*; but

but how *certainly* to *know* this, *before* Bleeding is performed (for after, it cannot be redressed) is the Difficulty. But, by our Method, where not only the *contractive* Power of the Vessels is *duly* considered, before the *least Quantity* of Blood be drawn ; but the proper Directions also, for proceeding *afterwards* with *Judgment* are laid down ; we are in no Danger of *lessening* the *Powers* of the *Faculties* in the Patient ; because we can certainly judge, even by the taking away of *one Ounce* of *Blood*, whether *Bleeding* will prove *hurtful* or *beneficial* : And from thence we are directed, either to stop, or to proceed accordingly. And we know not of any Case, where there is the *least Indication* for taking away of Blood ; wherein the Patient can suffer, from the Loss of one single Ounce only.

Having thus endeavoured to discover the *Nature* and *Cause* of the *Febricula*,
or

or *little* Fever, and shewn the *Manner* of *distinguishing* its *false Appearances*; and having, at the same Time, exhibited the *proper Method* of treating this Disease, together with its more *conspicuous* and *casual Symptoms*; and likewise furnished the Reader with a *Variety* of Instances, wherein it appears to assume the Shape of *other Distempers* (tho' all yielding to the *Practice* for the true *Febricula* :) We would hope, that the sending these *Observations* and *repeated Experiences* into the World, may not only prove a sufficient *Warning* and *Direction* to the young *Practitioner*; but also to the Patient himself: As well against the *silent Approaches* of the *Febricula*; as the *fatal Tendencies* of this *destructive Illness*, when it is either *neglected*, or *improperly treated*.

F I N I S.



